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Genetic Researcher Explains Cloning of the 'AIDS Virus'

East Bay Firm Creates Virus in a Test Tube, But Predicts Vaccine is 3 to 5 Years Away

by Charlie Linebarger

Recent articles in local dailies have given the impression to many people that a small East Bay genetic engineering firm may be on the verge of creating a vaccine for AIDS. That hope is premature, but some promising things are going on in the fight against AIDS at Chiron Corp. in Emeryville.

The *Bay Area Reporter* talked to Dr. Paul A. Luciw, the director of the AIDS project at Chiron. The important thing that has happened at Chiron, according to Dr. Luciw, is the cloning of the full set of genes for the virus believed to lie at the root of AIDS.

The story begins over a year ago at the Pasteur Institute in Paris, when French scientists succeeded in identifying an infectious agent (virus) believed to cause AIDS. Six months later in Washington, D.C., federal scientists at the National Institutes of Health also succeeded in isolating a virus from their AIDS patients. The belief has been, from the beginning, that these two viruses are very similar — probably identical — and are probably the cause of AIDS.

The next step for Chiron came this spring when Dr. Jay A. Levy of UCSF's Cancer Research Institute succeeded in isolating a virus from an AIDS patient. Dr. Luciw said that Chiron believes that Levy's virus is similar to the two previously

discovered AIDS viruses, and also probably the cause of the disease. (Note the change in nomenclature: we're now talking about a disease, not a syndrome, because many scientists now believe that the virus responsible for AIDS has been found.)

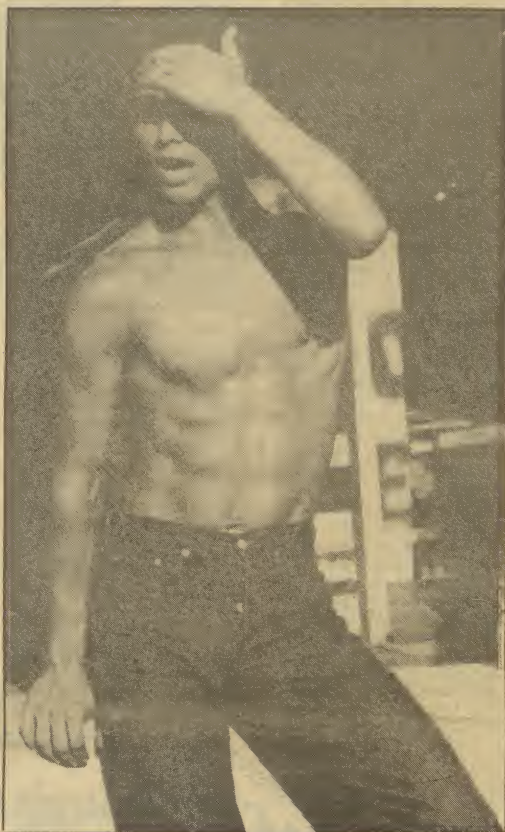
Chiron came into the picture in June of this year, Luciw said, because, "We have recombinant DNA technologies." That means Chiron is capable of studying the exact chemical composition of the virus and, perhaps, duplicating it.

Taking off from Dr. Levy's discovery, Chiron has been able over the past summer to reduplicate — or "clone" — Dr. Levy's AIDS virus in a test tube. "This

is extremely important for studying the virus," Dr. Luciw explained. "This will allow us to complete a process we're halfway through now, discovering the exact chemical composition of this virus."

Discovering the chemical composition of the virus is important, according to Luciw, because the researchers then can begin to ask questions about what it is in the virus which causes AIDS. Luciw pointed out that both the French and the National Institutes of Health in Washington have also reduplicated the virus, or their variant of it, in vitro (test tube), and have begun studying it.

Chiron is apparently different than these giants in AIDS research. (Continued on page 2)



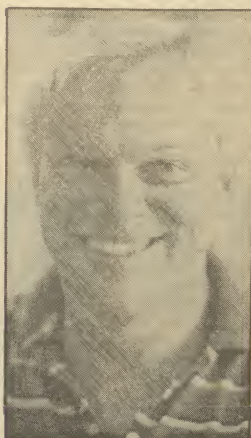
We're Havin' a Heat Wave, hard to keep cool when things on the street are this hot. (Photo: Rink)

Dave Wharton: Gay in the Center

He's Hopeful in Second Campaign; Wants to Improve Gov't Access

by Allen White

Dave Wharton is a man with ideas for San Francisco who is running for supervisor. In a race where incumbents have a distinct edge, Wharton said he firmly believes he has a chance.



Dave Wharton (Photo: Rink)

He slyly throws out his best endorsement, which says that "Dave Wharton seems to be the very sort of outstanding San Franciscan whom the framers of the city charter wanted on the Board of Supervisors." The sentence takes on an ironic meaning when it's noted that the author is Kevin Starr, the same Kevin Starr whom Dave Wharton must beat to become a supervisor.

Wharton received the kind words from Starr in 1982 when Wharton ran an unsuccessful race for the office. He believes this time around that he has a good chance. He has backed his hopes with some solid ideas to improve the city. The primary thrust appears to be to give the people who live in San Francisco more contact with their government.

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What's in Joan Rivers' closet? Are we talking fashion here? Oh, grow up. Rivers and a publicist for Michael Jackson take swipes over some not-so-Gay remarks. Allen White stirs it up p. 3

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The Mayor didn't show, she and Quentin Kopp were booed, and recent Gay-rights defeats were on everybody's minds. That set the mood for the Toklas Club's annual dinner. But Ginny Apuzzo spurred on the faithful not to give up hope. George Mendenhall reports p. 14

Shanti Project counselors are on the front lines of the AIDS epidemic, dealing daily with life and death concerns. Mike Hippler sits in on a counselors' group session p. 16

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Gay Chicagoan Linked To Midwest Murders

Body of Hustler in Dumpster May Solve Murders of 22 Men

by James C. Jackson

Chicago - A Gay man here, who is a suspect in dozens of sex-linked serial slayings, has been charged with the brutal dismemberment murder of a teenage hustler. The victim's body was cut into eight pieces and thrown in a trash dumpster behind the suspect's apartment.

Larry W. Eyler, 31, who Illinois police compare to John Wayne Gacy, is being held without bond in Chicago. He is a suspect in 22 other slayings in Indiana, Illinois, Kentucky, and Wisconsin. Already charged with the stabbing murder of a Chicago electrician one year ago, Eyler was free on bond when the dismembered body of 16-year-old Daniel Bridges was found Aug. 21.



Danny Bridges, slain hustler (Photo: WMAG-TV, Chicago)

Eyler, a former house painter, was charged with the murder the day after his arrest. Investigators found in his apartment blood-stained clothing and newspaper, as well as tools they believe may have been used to dismember the teenager.

Investigated for more than a year by police from seven states working to solve nearly 50 murders, Eyler is also charged with the savage slaying of Ralph E. Calise, 28 — just one of at least 34 various slayings since 1980 which police say may be "homo-

(Continued on page 4)

Files Show FBI Spied on Gays

J. Edgar Hoover Personally Ordered Missions to Continue

Los Angeles - The FBI has released to the American Civil Liberties Union of Southern California more than 1,000 pages of documents demonstrating the agency's unlawful surveillance of Gay and Lesbian organizations for 33 years. The action came in response to a lawsuit filed in October 1983, on behalf of Gay activist and political scientist Dan Siminoski, under the Freedom of Information Act.

The documents, most of which were received in August, are from the FBI headquarters in Washington, DC, and focus on the Mattachine Society, one of the first Gay organizations subjected to surveillance. They include reprints of pamphlets and literature and several hundred pages of FBI memorandums.

Siminoski, with the help of researchers, has been analyzing the content of the documents. According to him, many of the released documents were originally classified as confidential and many were classified as documents pertaining to internal security matters.

The FBI has admitted to the surveillance of at least a dozen Gay or Lesbian organizations across the country. John Heilman, ACLU volunteer attorney in the case, said that the surveillance of Gay and Lesbian organizations was widespread. "It included," he said, "infiltration or surveillance of groups in San Francisco, Los Angeles, Seattle, San Diego, Denver, Chicago,

New York, and New Haven."

Heilman said that FBI field offices were often instructed to obtain potentially prejudicial information on the personal lives of Gay and Lesbian activists. Despite this, the documents released thus far do not reveal any illegal or subversive activities by the groups infiltrated.

"Indeed," he said, "in several cases investigations were closed for lack of prejudicial information only to be reopened by personal instructions from FBI Director J. Edgar Hoover or his assistant Clyde Tolson."

Siminoski is working with Gay and Lesbian activists to obtain their personal records under the Privacy Act. These activists include Harry Hay, founder of Mattachine; Dorr Legg, founder of One, Inc.; and Jim Kepner, founder of the National Gay Archives.

Siminoski can be reached at the ACLU of Southern California, 633 S. Shatto Pl., Los Angeles, CA 90005; (213) 487-1720.



Black and White Issue. Members of Black and White Men Together, seen here at the Badlands, are doing "informational picketing" and passing out literature. They say Gay bars provide too few jobs for people of color — a charge supported by the city's Human Rights Commission. (Photo: Rink)



Gerry Studds (Photo: Rink)

Big Massachusetts Primary Win For Gay Rep. Gerry Studds

Gerry Studds, the nation's only openly-Gay member of Congress, easily defeated two opponents in Tuesday's bitterly fought race in the Massachusetts Tenth Congressional District. Studds, a Democrat, was formally censured last year for an admitted homosexual affair with a 17-year-old congressional page. The congressman's House censure had become a major issue in this week's primary campaign.

Studds, seeking a seventh term in Congress, easily defeated Plymouth County (MA) Sheriff Peter Flynn, who had made the congressman's homosexuality a major issue of the campaign. Studds received 61 percent of the Democratic vote, Flynn received 34 percent, and a third candidate, Christopher Trundy, received 4 percent.

Although Studds' campaign

raised \$350,000 before the primary, the popular congressman was outspent by the sheriff, and the victory Tuesday was sweet for Studds and his backers.

Studds told a crowd at his Pembroke, MA, election headquarters that he was "very thankful tonight... We have been through a lot together, but this is a wonderful, wonderful night for all of us. There has never been a night like this for me."

In November, Studds will face Republican Louis Cramp-ton, a former Reagan employee of the Environmental Protection Agency.

Studds' district is one of those congressional districts targeted by the Reagan administration, and political observers see yet another bitter contest ahead for Gerry Studds to retain his seat in November.

Cloning of the 'AIDS Virus'

(Continued from page 1)

search in that it is willing to talk about its progress against the disease without waiting first for scientific publication to open the subject up to the press.

Luciw said it is speculation at this point to determine when a vaccine for AIDS will be found. He was willing to say that it would probably come within 3 to 5 years, though it might take longer. Then again, with a little luck, it might be sooner.

The immediate usefulness of Chiron's discovery will be to blood banks in their search for a foolproof test to keep out AIDS-contaminated blood.

Many people within the Gay community have wondered where AIDS came from. Dr. Luciw had some interesting speculations on the subject. "It looks as if it may have begun from an animal to human contact in northern Zaire. The disease may have existed in this area for some time without ever having come to the attention of Western medicine. In some of these Third World countries 99 percent of the people never see a doctor. In some of these areas half of the children die of measles before reaching adolescence. AIDS could easily have existed there for some time."

The interesting point, to Luciw, in thinking about Zaire

as a possible original focus for AIDS is the fact that the capital city of Zaire has direct airline transportation to only two cities in Europe and the Americas. The cities are Brussels and Port au Prince, each a focus in its own continent of the disease.

Thus, for Americans, we find ourselves tracing AIDS back to Haiti. For Europeans, particularly Belgians, the focus of origin is Zaire, the former Belgian Congo.

Luciw sees the disease entering the Gay male community in the United States via Gay tourists returning from Haitian resorts in the mid-'70s. Asked why the Gay male community should find itself so at risk for the disease, Luciw was forced into speculation again. Perhaps the promiscuity that existed in Gay urban areas until recently, perhaps particular sex acts that result in more physical trauma to the body than straight sex. But also perhaps because multiple agents may be needed to produce a full-blown case of AIDS: the "Aids virus" itself and, possibly, the Hepatitis B virus, Cytomegalovirus, or Epstein-Barr Virus.

As Dr. Luciw warned before speculating on the origin of the virus, it is all still up in the air. But every day the researchers get a little closer to the truth. ■

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BAY AREA REPORTER SEPT. 20, 1984 PAGE 2

Rivers and Jackson Have a Gay Quarrel

*The Stars Collide After Question
From a Humble B.A.R. Reporter*

by Allen White

"Is Joan Rivers a Lesbian?" Oh, grow up. But that question — asked by this reporter and prompted by Michael Jackson's own publicist — has become a touchy one indeed. It began 10 days ago when Michael Jackson's publicist held a press conference to try and squelch rumors that the effeminate superstar is Gay. Jackson's publicist, Norman Winters, suggested that "Joan Rivers should look into her own closet."

Winters, the personal publicist to the superstar, was interviewed by the *Bay Area Reporter* following a press conference held by Jackson's organization earlier this month. He covered a wide range of topics from satire by comics and the Gay community's following of Jackson to the contents of the Jackson press statement.

In the conference, Jackson denied the use of hormones, the use of certain types of facial surgery, and stated he one day intended to get married and raise a family. Norman Winters told the *B.A.R.* the statement had been prompted by several stories, primarily in supermarket tabloids, that strongly implied Michael Jackson is Gay. Winters said the press conference was held to state Jackson's position and put an end to the rumors.

Winters also had things to say about Joan Rivers and Eddie Murphy. Though he passed off the Murphy comments as possible jealousy, he was more direct in his comments about Rivers. He suggested she "should take

a look into her own closet."

The *B.A.R.* contacted Richard Grant, a spokesperson for Joan Rivers, regarding "her closet." Grant could not recall Joan Rivers using Jackson as a subject in her routines. At the same time, he acknowledged that he hadn't seen all her recent performances and wasn't in a position to deny that Jackson was a target of the sharp-tongued comedienne.

The *B.A.R.* then asked Grant for a reaction to Winters' remark. Grant asked for a more specific question.

"Is Joan Rivers a Lesbian?" he was asked. As the question was asked and the emotion level raised considerably, it became quickly obvious that in Joan Rivers' land turnabout is not at all fair play. Richard Grant pulled together his response on behalf of his client. "I will not dignify the question with a comment," he said.

Last week *The National Enquirer* reported that Joan Rivers could face legal action if she uses material which implies Jackson



Oh, He's Gay! Joan Rivers says about Michael Jackson. Jackson publicist tells Joan to look in her own closet — and the smear is on.

is Gay. Significantly, Winters offered that such action against comics enters a complex legal arena. The purpose of Jackson's press conference, he said, was against the supermarket tabloids — and there they went so far in the press conference as to name not only the law firm, but the individual attorney who is set to spring into action on behalf of Jackson.

Ironically, the battle of the "closets" between Rivers and Jackson launched them both back onto the pages of the *Enquirer* — the "nation's largest circulation paper." And the tiff allowed the *Enquirer* to stoke the "Michael Jackson is Gay"

story without saying a word itself — but by quoting Rivers.

Rivers was quoted as saying in one comedy routine, "Michael Jackson is Gay. He's Gay. He lost his other glove in Boy George's pocket."

The entertainment industry has been generally supportive of Michael Jackson. Many Gay people who work as performers or behind the scenes have commented that all the ridicule against Jackson has come simply because he has fallen into on-stage mannerisms which might be interpreted as those of a Gay stereotype. Nobody has publicly come forth with any evidence that Michael Jackson is Gay. ■

Australia: 'Lovers' Get Benefits

Australia, which has restrictive laws against homosexual conduct, has had two breakthroughs that effect Gay people:

- A federal panel, acting for the ruling Labor Party, ruled in July that unmarried members of the Parliament there can take their lovers along on official trips, in place of husbands and wives for whom the government sometimes pays expenses.
- The management of the Australian Broadcasting Corporation announced in August that it was adopting a "domestic partners" policy. Henceforth, fringe benefits now available to spouses of employees are extended to include homosexual partners. This would include special leaves and housing allowances.

Andrew Peacock, leader of the conservative Liberal Party, said his party would reverse the Parliament ruling if it gains power in the November election. Brian Harradine, a Parliament Independent from Tasmania, was outraged, stating "We either recognize marriage or we don't."

Australia has been strict in prohibiting homosexual sex, but allows legalized prostitution at the local level. Five members of Parliament have been touring the red light districts of Australia's major cities to evaluate the health of the prostitutes. They went into the houses and interviewed the women. Two panel members continued their research by touring red light districts in Europe and Asia. The press had dubbed the investigators "The Happy Lookers." ■

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Gay Man Linked to 22 Murders

(Continued from page 1)

sexual-linked."

This Midwestern murder wave since 1982 has baffled investigators, shocked Gay community members, and left a wake of scarred survivors and "living victims" of the investigation.

Most victims were young men from 16 to 28 who disappeared while hitchhiking or hustling on the streets of Chicago or Indianapolis. All but Bridges were unearthed or discovered dumped near main highways linking the two cities.

Victims were stabbed and slashed to death — some wounded dozens of times — or mutilated and dismembered almost beyond recognition. "It was as if the killer was trying to murder something other than a man — maybe a demon," said

one investigator.

Six bodies were exhumed late last year in two makeshift graveyards in northwest Indiana. Seventeen other victims were dumped in spots from southern Wisconsin to northern Kentucky.

ARRESTED BUT FREED

After his arrest for the Calise murder last year, Eyler was held for 100 days under \$1 million bond in an Illinois jail until Feb. 6. His bond was then lowered to \$10,000 after a controversial court decision that police had obtained damaging evidence illegally.

"It was just a matter of time before Eyler would kill again," said Lake County, IL, Sheriff Robert "Mickey" Babcox after Eyler's last arrest. Immediately after Eyler's release six months

ago, he predicted: "Larry Eyler, I think he'll kill again. I don't know if it will take a month or three months but I'm sure he will. I feel he can't stop himself."

Babcox and several other investigators who'd interrogated Eyler at various times told the news media that Eyler was a "schizophrenic," "self-hating homosexual" who compulsively "externalized his rage at being homosexual" by engaging in sadistic sex scenarios with young men only to slash and stab them afterwards.

"(Eyler's) a subculture of a subculture," said Babcox. "He's an admitted Gay, he admits that, and he's a subculture in that group, even, because he preys upon them, homosexuals, upon that type of people, and kills them."

Eyler told reporters last October: "I happen to know absolutely nothing about any of the murders . . . I am innocent and I can't believe that they could, you know, convict somebody that didn't do it."

Police report that the latest victim knew Eyler and was afraid of him. "Yeah, I knew him (Eyler)," Bridges told the *Chicago Tribune* about four months ago, in an interview concerning his history as a young hustler. "He was a real freak. He used to come around Uptown (north of Chicago) and hang around."

Eyler, who now refuses to talk to police or the press, contended earlier that he had been victimized by an "unprofessional," "overzealous" investigation that spotlighted his homosexuality and was noteworthy for its disorganization and sloppiness. His former attorneys said police misinterpreted Eyler's practice of "bondage" sex scenarios.

"What really caught (the investigators') attention was that Larry was into bondage," said David P. Schippers, a former attorney in the Calise murder case.

"The coppers give his homosexuality immense weight. I used to think (Gays) were exaggerating their claims of discrimination. I have found in this case that it is not overrated," he said.

Sheriff Babcox commented: "(Eyler) is a macho-type, beer-drinking homosexual who has a hatred for himself because he is homosexual . . . He is schizophrenic, split-personality." Babcox noted that Eyler had not undergone psychiatric testing and that "none" was necessary to prove his "schizophrenia."

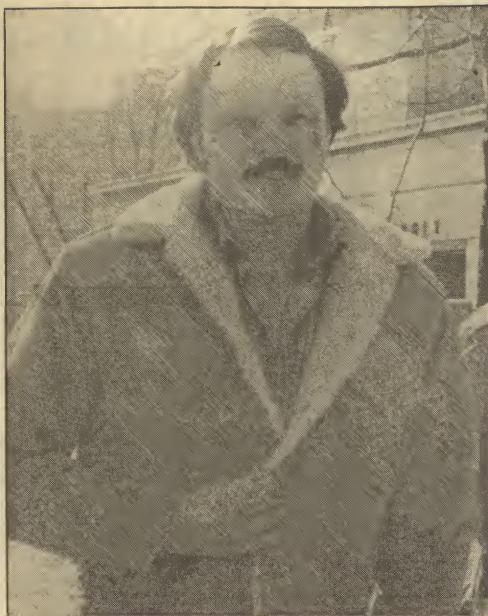
Although recent events have overshadowed Eyler's complaints of police misconduct, the dismissal of illegal evidence last February came when it was learned Indiana police had blatantly violated the suspect's constitutional rights several consecutive times in their investigation.

"The police work of the Indiana investigators in the arrest of Larry Eyler is the worst I have ever seen," said Schippers, a federal prosecutor turned defense attorney.

HOW MANY MURDERS?

In the last year, various police in Indiana and Illinois have announced to the press that Eyler was a suspect in multiple homicides ranging in number from two to 51. Even now, Illinois police claim Eyler is a suspect in one Lexington, KY, homicide that police there say is "not that related."

Lake County Circuit Judge William D. Block, who voided most of the evidence against



Accused in Hacksaw Murder. Police allege Larry Eyler stabbed hustler, then saved him apart to dispose of the body. He has been linked to as many as 22 Gay-related murders. This photo was taken just before his release last February, when a judge threw out the evidence against him. (Photo: Paul Cotton/Chicago GayLife)

Eyler, stated in court that he "wasn't sure (the Indiana investigators) ever had a case even with all of (their) evidence intact."

But Indiana police say their evidence is extensive, "overwhelming," and — if readmitted to court in the future — certain to bring a conviction.

Indiana police began investigating Eyler more than a year ago when a special ten-member inter-agency task force was established to probe the homicides. The task force received an anonymous call from a man later discovered to be a former lover of Eyler's in Indianapolis.

Using computers and the combined resources of three police departments and FBI laboratories, the task force has amassed thousands of pages of data and testimony as well as "more than 2,000 names" of possibly-related individuals, police said.

A former resident of Terre Haute, IN, Eyler was tracked through credit card purchases. He drove his truck thousands of miles between Indiana and Illinois cities, often cruising in Gay bars and picking up hustlers and hitchhikers, according to police.

Some of the evidence suppressed in the February court ruling included a bloody knife, a length of clothesline, and handcuffs police confiscated from Eyler's pickup truck after stopping him when he and a hitchhiker were seen walking through roadside bushes. At the time, police told reporters they had found a 16-year-old male tied up in the back of his truck, an allegation which some independent and investigative sources deny.

Circumstantial evidence against Eyler includes long-distance telephone records. The suspect placed a collect call to Chicago from a community near the gravesite of four bodies on the same morning that one of the victims was last seen.

Other evidence against Eyler includes a key to a government office where he once worked which was found near the mutilated body of Steven R. Agan, 23. The victim's remains were discovered Dec. 28, 1982, close to a highway Eyler traveled regularly.

"The key opened the door (to his former workplace) and his boss told us . . . that is the only key not accounted for, that Larry did not turn his key back in when he was fired from that

job," said task force detective Sam McPherson. He noted that Agan's body was "guttured, butchered like a deer by about 30 or 40 wounds, some of which were through the body cavity from the inside out. His scrotum was cut open. It was a rage killing, a lot of anger."

Other "rage killings" may include an unidentified dismembered body found in a northwest Indiana makeshift graveyard, as well as the slaying of Derrick Hansen, 18, whose torso was identified by spinal X-rays after police could not find other remains.

Detective McPherson speculated that in some homicides the head and hands are missing because the victim's identity could reveal the killer. Stating he believes Eyler will be convicted, he noted that the suspect studied library books on "home butchering."

THE HUSTLER MURDER

Meanwhile, Chicago investigators continue to build a "mountain" of evidence. They believe Eyler intended to kidnap the hustler, Danny Bridges. Through Illinois law, Eyler is eligible for the death penalty because prosecutors believe the murder occurred in the commission of the attempted kidnapping.

Police claim Eyler fatally stabbed Bridges in the bedroom of his apartment late on the night of Aug. 18 or the following morning, and that the former housepainter painted the walls to cover bloodstains. Police technicians say they have found blood that matches Bridges' type splattered beneath a coat of fresh paint.

They also believe a body was dismembered Aug. 19 in Eyler's bathtub.

Witnesses report seeing Eyler with a youth resembling Bridges on the night before his murder, and a janitor testified that he observed Eyler carrying large plastic bags to the trash dumpster where the body was found.

Confiscated from the apartment was a bloody t-shirt, identified as Bridges', and an awl and an empty hacksaw frame. Police say they found a local store where Eyler allegedly bought hacksaw blades.

Meanwhile, police announced that new blood has been found in Eyler's apartment — blood that was not Bridges'.

J.C. Jackson

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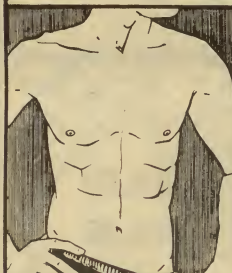
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Making a point, Candidate Dave Wharton chats with Chronicle reporter Randy Shilt. (Photo: Rink)

Dave Wharton: Gay in the Center

(Continued from page 1)

Dave Wharton wants the Board of Supervisors to meet at night once a month so people who work in the daytime can come to the meetings. He wants the meetings to be held in neighborhoods so people don't have to travel to City Hall to participate in their government. He wants to change the attitude of city government and make it easier for citizens to participate.

Wharton believes that people are out of touch with their government. He blames the government, not the people. He would like to see supervisors maintain offices throughout the city in neighborhoods.

As he presents his message he methodically explains how he can introduce a new type of internal negotiation into city government. He believes there is too much grandstanding which hampers effective government action.

He keeps a busy schedule moving throughout the city with his presentation. On a given night he will appear and address the City Democratic Club downtown at the Press Club. Before the meeting has ended,



ELECTION '84:

THE CITY

he will have left and be on his way to make a presentation in the Haight at the San Francisco Democratic Club.

The success of the Dave Wharton campaign would appear to be his fresh approach to basic ideas. He would extend the use of the "Fast Pass" to encompass city facilities. He believes city residents should get a break when it comes to going to the zoo or enjoying other scenic attractions in the city. He wants to

create more parking and issue free permits to neighborhood residents.

The unusual area of his campaign is that he is running as a Gay candidate. More properly stated, he is Gay and is running for supervisor. He doesn't hide the fact that he and his lover Ron have been together for over six years — they met June 16, 1978, at Trinity Place. In 1982, when Wharton received the endorsement of the *San Francisco Examiner*, there was no question that he is Gay.

What sets Dave Wharton apart from other Gay candidates is his placement of the entire government process above specific Gay issues. A discussion of San Francisco's city government will never begin with such issues as the bathhouses, the funding of Community United Against Violence, or AIDS funding. In practice, the candidacy of Dave Wharton is built on process. When challenged, the candidate will address how he would work through a problem.

His political bent is much more to the middle than Gay candidates Pat Norman and Harry Britt. In his campaign material he is described as "a respected voice of moderation in the Gay community."

He has been campaigning for this office officially since the first of February. "The last campaign was for experience; this one is for all the marbles," says Wharton.

Dave Wharton is unquestionably a realist who knows that running for supervisor is a tough battle. To win, one of the six incumbents has to lose, and he has to beat all the challengers. He believes that the odds don't change the importance of putting qualified new leaders in office. Wharton said he is going to win because he can sell his ability to be a problem-solver. ■

A. White

Molinari, Norman, Britt on Top In Alice Club Endorsements

The Alice B. Toklas Lesbian/Gay Democratic Club, the oldest predominantly Gay political club in the state, held its endorsement meeting Monday night and endorsed five supervisorial candidates for the six open seats in the November election. Veteran Supervisor John Molinari received the highest number of votes, receiving 83 percent of all votes cast, followed by supervisorial challenger Pat Norman with 73 percent. Incumbent Harry Britt received 72 percent; incumbent Louise Renne received 67 percent; and incumbent Carol Ruth Silver won endorsement with 66 percent. A candidate had to win at least 60 percent of the votes in order to be endorsed.

Incumbent Supervisor Willie Kennedy, who polled 45 percent of Monday night's votes, missed getting endorsed, but will compete with challengers Dave Wharton and Julianne Malveaux for the remaining slot at

the October meeting.

In the Board of Education race, Toklas members endorsed incumbents Libby Denebeim, Ben Tom, Dick Cerbatos, and challenger Joanne Miller.

There are four seats at stake in the race for Community College Board, but only incumbents Tim Wofford and Julie Tang received the endorsement. Toklas members voted a "YES" endorsement on city propositions A, B, C, F, G, I, and J, and took a "no position" on propositions D, E, and H. On the statewide propositions, Toklas endorsed only one, Prop. 37 (state lottery), and voted "NO" on propositions 35, 36, 39, and 41.

State Senate candidate Lia Belli, U.S. Representatives Sala Burton and Barbara Boxer, and Assembly members Willie Brown and Art Agnos had received the Alice endorsement at an earlier meeting. ■

Merger Raises Dimes For Meals Program

To celebrate the announcement this week of their new corporation, the directors of Massaw Corp. of San Francisco have pledged ten cents from the sale of every drink in all of their bars and restaurants from Sept. 15 to Oct. 15 as a contribution to "Meals on Wheels." Meals on Wheels is a service providing home food delivery at no cost to the elderly, handicapped, and those unable to care for themselves (including victims of AIDS).

Massaw Corp. is a merger of Tri-Calm Corporation/Garnet Corporation, operating The

Mint, Sutter's Mill, and Raggs with Adinsandell, Inc., operating The P.S., Casa de Cristal, and Church Street Station.

The Mint, Sutter's Mill, The P.S., Casa de Cristal, and Church Street Station are long-established bars and restaurants serving the city. Raggs is the bar/restaurant/cabaret located in the new Apparel Mart Building. Starting Sept. 10, Raggs began featuring the same creative "south of the border" menu that has made Casa de Cristal one of the area's outstanding Mexican restaurants. ■

Wahl, Wharton Win GOP Nod; Gay Club Takes Slap at Britt

by Wayne Friday

Concerned Republicans for Individual Rights (CRIR), the only predominantly Gay Republican club in Northern California, held its endorsement meeting Monday night, Sept. 17, endorsing only one incumbent supervisor for reelection in November. CRIR endorsed incumbent Supervisor John Molinari and three challengers — John Wahl and Dave Wharton, two Gay candidates, and Jonathan Bulkley. There are six open supervisorial seats to be filled on Nov. 6.

Supervisor Louise Renne missed CRIR endorsement by 2 votes and Quentin Kopp, long a favorite of the conservative Gay Republican club, lost endorsement by a wide margin.

There are four seats on the Community College Board to be filled, but CRIR endorsed only two candidates — incumbents Tim Wofford and Julie Tang. Concerned Republicans also endorsed incumbent school board members Ben Tom and Eugene Hopp for reelection. In a strange twist of voting, CRIR endorsed challenger JoAnne Miller, the candidate most observers see as the threat to Hopp, who a number of CRIR members praised as being the best on the board.

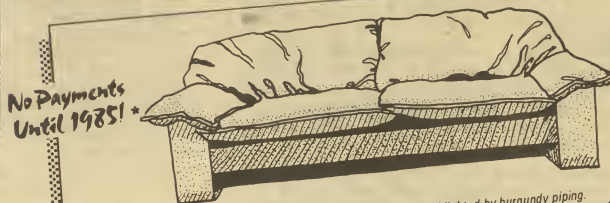
Incumbent BART board member John Kirkwood, a Republican, was endorsed for reelection. The club had voted a unanimous endorsement of State Senator Milton Marks at an earlier meeting.

On city propositions, CRIR endorsed propositions A, B, and G and urged a "no" vote on propositions C, D, E, F, H, I, and J. On statewide propositions, the Republican club endorsed propositions 25, 26, 27, 28, 30, 31, 33, 34, 37, 38, 39, and 41 but took a "no position" on proposition 36 (the Gann initiative).

In what some saw as an unusual move, CRIR passed a "statement of opposition to the reelection of Supervisor Harry Britt." Written by former CRIR president Duke Armstrong and signed by fellow members Bob Bacci, Ray Benson, and Al Sloop, the resolution attacked Britt for everything from "the poor quality of his leadership and the narrowness of his opinions" to his "secret association with socialist demagogues," and urged voters to "replace him on the board with a qualified Gay or Lesbian candidate." ■

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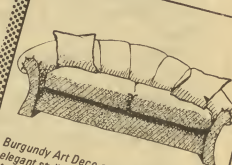
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VIEWPOINT

If This Makes Sense

At last count, the *San Francisco Examiner* has closed the bathhouses three times. The *Chronicle* has done so twice. Like William Randolph Hearst, the local dailies seem to believe that if they write headlines big enough, they can start a war — or close the baths.

We feel besieged by the barrage of bold-face type. So, too, does the suffering and death of the AIDS epidemic despirit us. The tendency is to ask: Does the bathhouse issue matter any longer?

Let events answer for themselves:

- In New York City, the Human Rights Commission has logged a "sharp increase" in complaints of anti-Gay discrimination. "Many homophobic individuals have used the existence of AIDS to rationalize bias against Gays under the guise of an alleged concern for health," a commission report states.

- In Duluth, Minnesota, voters repealed a city human rights law last week. AIDS was an issue. "AIDS passed by homosexual conduct and blood transfusions is the public health threat of the century. It is fatal to anyone, even the most innocent adult or child," said the Duluth Citizens for Decency.

- In Sacramento, a neighborhood group filed a petition against a Gay bar which stated, "Some members of our community are fearful of the spread of AIDS and accordingly hope to curtail any additional bar activities in the neighborhood."

- And in the Supreme Court of the United States, a Texas case is pending with AIDS as an issue. That state's sodomy law was declared unconstitutional, but groups such as "Doctors Against AIDS" are arguing that public health concerns demand the law remain in force.

The push to close the bathhouses and sex clubs in San Francisco fits squarely within this sweep of anti-Gay, AIDS-related cruelty.

The issue isn't plumbing. Nobody's saying AIDS comes from towels or shower rooms. Dr. Mervyn Silverman, the director of public health, doesn't really want to force changes on bathhouses. He wants to force changes on Gay men. He says it is for our own good.

Some people think this makes sense. If Gay men won't change behavior on their own (by far, a majority has) then the government should force them to. That's a simple notion, and that's what closing the baths is all about. It sounds sensible. But what happens next?

If this makes sense, then recriminalizing sodomy makes sense. Sodomy laws — which remain in force in two dozen states — specifically prohibit the same kinds of behavior prohibited in Dr. Silverman's unsuccessful "sex ban" proposal. If it makes sense to close the baths, it makes sense to outlaw the same acts in your home.

If this makes sense, then arresting men for making out in darkened parks or cars or some dusty adult movie theater in Anywhere, Illinois, makes sense. It makes so much sense it's already happening. Just as well — we know the police's motivation is only to protect us from AIDS.

And if this makes sense, then it makes sense to many people to bar Gays from jobs and homes. This was precisely the opinion expressed by an *Examiner* columnist a few weeks ago. Jeffrey Hart said, "The homosexual populations in New York and San Francisco are a serious public health hazard, ticking bombs."

Notice how he shifted the focus. AIDS is no longer the threat — we are.

That's precisely the signal closing the baths in San Francisco will send to the nation. And the nation is watching closely — even if we are growing weary.

Brian Jones

LETTERS

On Closing the Baths . . .

Deserves to Die

★ So now we are dying at the rate of one a day. But we must protect our rights and freedoms, regardless of the cost. Close our bathhouses? Never! And on and on!

I am at the point that I am ashamed to be Gay. It seems that my brethren have reached the point where they just don't care. About themselves or each other. You might say that this is the exception rather than the rule. I tell you it is not.

I have read about and heard about those among us that have been stricken with AIDS, and continue to be promiscuous. I figured that it had to be rare. My neighbor across the street has Kaposi's. He parades tricks in and out of his place like so many cattle to slaughter. He has a "lover." This being's attitude is "Oh well, that's John." These men deserve to die.

They, and the others of their ilk, are just as guilty of murder as Manson, or Gary Gilmore. They deserve the same fate, yet this newspaper and like-minded members of our community insist on their right to infect and to destroy in the name of freedom. It makes me sick and leaves me feeling utterly helpless to know this man, no this pariah, is infecting all these people, and I can do nothing.

Report it? To whom? To what end? So that this publication and our "leaders" can claim encroachment on our private lives? Squabble and cry like so many faggot fairies who don't have enough time, money or drugs for the weekend. Hold up the tattered and torn banner of discrimination? ENOUGH!!

It's time for sanity. Our enemy is AIDS, and sometimes ourselves, not City Hall or the federal government. Had it not been for the pressure we put on the mayor, the bathhouses would be closed now. She has shown this community compassion and co-operation, and for anyone to infer she or City Hall is using this disease to control our sexual behavior is ridiculous.

We live, or have lived charmed lives in this city, but our actions show that we are hell-bent on self-destruction. I base my observations not on the actions of a few, but the actions and words of many, too many to be discounted as mere exceptions.

I don't have an answer. I wish I did. But if we had more respect for ourselves and each other, this tragedy would have been contained, and we would never have seen the ugliness and repugnance that can only bring condemnation upon us.

No dick is worth dying for . . . yet within 10 months time 60 of us a month will be dying, and for what? If the powers that be really want to get rid of us, all they have to do is nothing. We can do that all by ourselves, thank you very much.

Randall Cushman
San Francisco

(Political) Science

★ The very way the city is going about dealing with the Gay bathhouse issue indicates that this is a political issue and has nothing to do with medical reasons. If the city were concerned solely with the medical aspects, then the scientifically proper way to handle the issue would be to wait until there was scientific and medical evidence that the baths caused or encouraged AIDS to be transmitted, and then to act against them. Instead, certain people first decided that they wanted the bathhouses closed and then they realized that they would need medical evidence to do it. Now they are desperately searching for that evidence.

Furthermore, this is the only city in the country which is attempting to close the bathhouses. If the

evidence were so strong, wouldn't many other cities have acted by now, especially cities with much smaller and less vocal Gay populations?

The truth is we do have scientific evidence that the bathhouse "Issue" has been created by certain people in the city government so that they can do certain things.

Timothy M. Brace
San Francisco

Good Intentions

The following is an open letter to Mayor Feinstein:

★ I understand and appreciate the good intentions behind the plan to close the Gay baths and private sex clubs of San Francisco. But good intentions are not enough and the plan is sure to backfire without accomplishing its goals.

The people who use the establishments in question know that their lives could be seriously endangered as a result of unsafe sexual encounters with strangers. If their behavior has not changed with such strong inducement as possible loss of life, how can we expect to affect their behavior by taking a step backward and once again legislating private personal behavior?

Closing the clubs will not stop the behavior, but will only move the activity to other, possibly public, locations.

As a resident of San Francisco and a member of the Gay community, I ask you to reject any attempt to legislate personal behavior in private places including private commercial establishments. We must hold each person responsible and accountable for him- or herself in private.

Please do not use the AIDS tragedy as an excuse to re-establish the double standard of legislated personal behavior we have fought so hard to defeat. San Francisco has a special responsibility to send an unequivocal message to the rest of the world: that individual freedom balanced by personal responsibility must rule in all private matters.

John Portera
San Francisco

Dehomosexualize

★ Predictably and purposefully, at least to the political cognoscente, the Mayor has shafted, once again, the Gay community as represented by the distinguished task force on domestic partners health benefits for city and county employees.

Aspiring to greater office at the state or national level, the Mayor needs to dehomosexualize her image to the public at large. Rejecting Gay benefits and advocating enforced celibacy among Gay men by closing the baths provides the Mayor with a Reaganesque and Fallwellian image essential to public acceptance. After ten years of rallying the gullible Gays behind her banner, she now finds them a monstrous liability.

Martin F. Stow
San Francisco

Letter Policy

★ The *Bay Area Reporter* welcomes your letters to the editor. Letters must be signed; anonymous letters will not be published. Please include your mailing address and telephone number so we may verify your letter — this information will not be published.

In order to print as many views as possible, we ask letter writers to be brief. To promote diversity in the Open Forum, we favor letters from writers who do not appear frequently, over repeated correspondence from a single author.

B.A.R.

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LETTERS

Racism Here?

* During the afternoon of Sunday, September 9, we visited the S.F. Eagle. Outside on 12th Street several members of Black and White Men Together were picketing the bar and passing out fliers urging prospective customers to boycott the bar due to its "... racially discriminatory hiring practices."

The flier specifically stated that "This gay bar does not employ gays who are nonwhite ..." and further claimed that BWMT had surveyed "100 Lesbian/Gay bars ... [and] found that an overwhelming number of the visible employees are white [and that they] concluded that discriminatory practices are being used."

The writers of this letter are three very regular patrons of The Eagle, normally visiting it on a daily basis; we are not only a family but also comprise one black and two white Gay men. Not only has there never been the faintest hint of racism shown to us by any Eagle employee, but we have never witnessed such an attitude demonstrated to any other client of whatever race or sex. We are agreed that the bartenders' approach to all is equal.

Unfortunately, this seems to be a classic example of an organization (BWMT) trying to create the appearance of a problem where none exists. One may instead ask how many nonwhites have ever applied for a job? And were they qualified?

Lastly, the statement "... an overwhelming number of the visible employees are white," is meaningless; even in cosmopolitan San Francisco an overwhelming number of people are Caucasian — a fact that those of us who prefer black men have frequent occasion to bemoan! It's a fact that only some 10% of the population of this country is black, and when we take the Gay male percentage of that percentage it's hardly surprising that relatively few blacks are to be found behind bar counters.

Speaking as racially mixed lovers, we would like to state categorically that not only is The Eagle our favorite South of Market leatherbar, but it has consistently been our experience that the personnel of the bar go out of their way to make everyone welcome regardless of race. Equally, we feel that in the event of a suitably qualified man of black, Asian, Latino, or Native American race applying for work there, he could be hired. The thought of The Eagle's management choosing to apply racist hiring practices is, to anyone knowing the place, so ludicrous as to be laughable.

Charles M. Durham
William P. Grimstad
Michel de La Roche
San Francisco

Vote Libertarian

* I disagree with the *Bay Area Reporter* and those who think that politicians like Sala Burton, Milton Marks, et al., — who pander to Gay voters — are my friends and deserve my support. I happen to be disgusted with these "Republicrats" and the welfare/warfare spending, taxes and regulation they support. I urge all Gay people to cast a vote for individual freedom and against Big Brother by voting Libertarian on election day. You do have an alternative to the current bipartisan ruling class.

Mark D. Fulwiler
San Francisco

Let Us Know

* At a time when other Gay newspapers have ceased publication, I would like to thank the publisher of *B.A.R.* for consistent operation and for keeping us informed on time, without interruption. The *B.A.R.* means a lot to many people overseas, and for years I have sent copies to Japan and Pakistan. This is the only real Gay news that they are able to obtain.

In particular, I would like to thank and at the same time ask that the news on AIDS patients and death notices be more complete in their coverage. Too many times we lose contact with people through job change or moving and have no way of knowing their needs except through some article in the *B.A.R.*

It is extremely distressing to read about the deaths of many of my friends of years as a result of AIDS causes, yet I feel it is a public service and duty of *B.A.R.* to continue to publish this information and whenever possible to seek out the names of those who have died so that we may know and pay our respect. Thank you.

Andrew J. Betancourt
San Francisco

Castro Ignored

* I have lived in San Francisco for almost seven years. I have always been a faithful reader of the *Bay Area Reporter* and during my life here I have lived in various neighborhoods.

I sincerely applaud *B.A.R.*'s efforts to cover all aspects of the Gay community, including sports, films, theater, movies, politics, leather, health, religion, etc. I especially enjoy Wayne Friday and Mr. Marcus above all, and to make it short, your paper is the best I've seen anywhere in Gay life.

I would ask you this question, however, and that is: since you have columnists who write about the Tenderloin (Sweetlips), Polk Street (Mark Friese) and Folsom, (Mr. Marcus), why is there no columnist to

write about Castro Street?

I admit that Folsom has a universal reputation for the leather/biker lifestyle, as does or did Polk Street before the emergence of Castro Street as a Gay tourist attraction.

I feel Castro Street is being denied the representation via columnist in your pages and this is unfair. Mr. Marcus manages to cover the entire city with emphasis on Folsom, and often includes tidbits on things in the Castro, but due to the world-wide reputation of Castro Street and its impact on this neighborhood and the Gay life in general, do you not feel it warrants something more in the way of a weekly column other than Marcus' few comments or a news story, feature story now and then on an "event" there?

Your otherwise excellent publication lacks this one element of a situation in San Francisco (Castro Street) that should be more fully reported. After all, as Mr. Marcus terms it, the "Valley of the Dolls" is alive, kicking, and definitely a location that deserves more coverage, including the gossip, dish, and innuendo accorded to Polk, Folsom, and other areas. I hope you'll think about it. Surely there must be *someone* in the Castro who would serve to make it so!

Kevin George
San Francisco

On United Way

* Well, the United Way season is again upon us, and Big Business is busy hustling its employees for pledges to "worthy causes."

Companies have appointed floor leaders, regional coordinators, department representatives, etc., and each of them have been told to aim for 100% participation from their areas.

There are more than 220 United Way member organizations in the Bay Area. They identify services for Blacks, Hispanics, Asians, senior citizens, children parents, Catholics, Jews, etc. While many services may be accessible to Gays, most of them are aimed primarily at the straight community.

Out of 220 Organizations, there is only one — *Operation Concern* — aimed at the specific and unique needs of the Gay population.

I telephoned the United Way office and asked for the eligibility status of six San Francisco-based Gay organizations. Four of them are not United Way agencies — that is, they do not automatically get United Way funding — but they ARE eligible for donor specified contributions:

- S.F. AIDS Foundation, 54 10th St., SF, CA 94103
- Shanti, 890 Hayes Street, SF, CA 94117
- CUAV, 480 Castro Street, SF, CA 94114
- Pride Foundation, 890 Hayes Street, SF, CA 94117

If you designate any of these four groups, your contribution will go to the group; otherwise, they get nothing.

Two Gay groups which do not qualify for the donor option are The San Francisco Band Foundation and GGPA. These groups, though they have the appropriate tax exempt status, are "arts" organizations, not "Health or Human Care" service organizations.

The only way to draw attention to the inequity of the United Way allocations is to show that we won't support them until they support us.

Don't let yourself be badgered into contributing to a fundraising group which deliberately ignores the needs of the Gay community.

I strongly urge everyone to either boycott the United Way drive entirely, OR specify a Gay-related organization on the pledge card.

If there is any organization which you want to support — and it isn't listed on the United Way member list — call the United Way at 772-4300 and ask for clarification.

If you contribute to United Way, make sure your money goes where you want it to go. If you want to support an "arts" organization, you can't count on the United Way — you will have to support the group directly.

G. Cotter
San Francisco

Spiritual Freedom

* Freedom and religion are not necessarily compatible, as religions are basically discipline to help one achieve an idealistic goal.

In this society if one chooses to discipline himself so as to get a front row seat in heaven or a gold medal from God for good behavior, he should be free to do so.

But he is not free to impose that religious discipline on me.

It is the responsibility of this free government to guarantee the rights of those that have chosen to discipline themselves in this way and to perhaps respect these spiritual needs by being impartial to the many and varied interpretations. But it is not the right of this free government to impose any of these religious disciplines on me.

John Di Donna
San Francisco

LETTERS

Sign, Please

The following was written to Gov. George Deukmejian:

★ You have before you Assembly Bill 848 by Assemblyman Tom Bates which would amend the Unruh Civil Rights Act to permit civil action for damages by victims of violent crimes when it is shown that the violence was directed against them because of age, disability, or sexual orientation.

I respectfully urge you to sign this important legislation.

As recently as last week, two Gay men were severely beaten at a San Francisco beach by assailants shouting anti-Gay epithets. This attack was preceded two weeks earlier by the brutal murder of a Gay man whose skull was crushed by attackers shouting the same anti-Gay slogans.

According to the Community United Against Violence, a city-funded agency organized to combat street violence in San Francisco, 85 such attacks have been reported in San Francisco since July 1st of this year. 332 attacks were reported in 1983. I want to stress that these are not the sum totals of violent incidents in San Francisco, but the reported incidents of attacks against Lesbians and Gay men. 35% of these attacks involved the use of weapons and 35% of the victims required medical attention.

I consider this compelling evidence of the need for AB-848.

In talking with my Gay and Lesbian constituents and Gay people from throughout California, I have noticed two experiences common to almost all Gay people, regardless of background or age: a pervasive fear of physical violence and a lack of security in employment. Unfortunately, violence and job discrimination are facts of life for California's Gay and Lesbian citizens.

Assembly Bill 848 will address one of the most disheartening aspects of the debate over homosexuality, the fact that fear and ignorance all too often is translated into brutality and murder.

Surely all our citizens are entitled to live and work in dignity, free from the threat of random violence.

I urge your signature of AB-848.

Art Agnos
San Francisco

On AB-848

The following was written to Gov. George Deukmejian:

★ I would urge you to sign AB-848, the bill that would add Gay people, the elderly, and the disabled to the protections in the Ralph Civil Rights Act that offers redress measures to various classes of people when they are victims or targets of physical attack.

Under the terms of the bill sponsored by Assemblyman Tom Bates, I understand that, if there is evidence that people are attacked or threatened because they belong to a particular class of people, they may sue for actual damages plus \$10,000. If AB-848 becomes law, I believe more of these heinous cases would come to court, if for no other reason than that attorneys would have incentive to take the cases. And, as I am sure you would agree, if it becomes known that more of these cases are coming to court — and winning — we can see a decrease in these kinds of senseless assaults.

There is definite need for this legislation. Perhaps we in San Francisco particularly feel the need for it because our Gay community is large and much more visible than those of most other localities in the state. For precisely that reason of visibility, I suspect, teenagers and young men in their early 20s will come to San Francisco from the suburbs and seek out Gay men to attack them just for "thrills." I am sure you are familiar with the recent case of five young suspects from Vallejo coming to our city one Sunday night in July and beating a Gay man. He died a few days later from severe head injuries. They boasted a few days after that about their being "one less faggot." You and I as proud California citizens and public officials do not want this kind of manifested bigoted behavior happening in our state.

I understand our local group that monitors such violent incidents, the Community United Against Violence, will be sending you documentation on other such occurrences. This is a well-respected group that has made giant strides in San Francisco to reduce these incidents by teaching some self-defense mechanisms and by assisting the police in finding the culprits.

Louise H. Renne
Member, Board of Supervisors
San Francisco

Mormons and Fagbashing

★ As members of a group currently in the news in connection with violence toward Gay people, we wish to respond to recent articles and letters which reflect incorrectly upon members and leaders of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints (Mormons).

We find it deplorable that Lee Ann Clanton, the mother of one of the suspects in the murder case of John O'Connell, felt that Mormon beliefs held by her family about homosexuality justified her son's cold, cruel, and un-Christ-like actions. While it is true that most Mormons believe, and the current opinion of most Mormon leaders is that homosexuality is a behavioral "choice" which is inconsistent with the practice of true Christianity, the Mormon Church does not condone

murder or violence toward anyone who does not hold beliefs similar to theirs.

The position of the Mormon Church toward homosexuality is similar to that of most other Christian churches and denominations. But there are many within the Mormon Church who are becoming educated about their homosexual brothers and sisters both outside and inside their own organization, just as members and leaders alike of most other denominations are slowly giving way to fact over popular beliefs held for centuries about homosexuality.

As visible, active members of the Gay and Lesbian community, and as members (present or past) of the Mormon Church, we oppose intolerance and violence and stereotyping of any person or group of people based on their race, religion, color, creed, sex, age, or sexual orientation. We love our Mormon heritage and we love our Gay and Lesbian brothers and sisters, and look forward to the day when we can all walk the streets without fear for life or property based on either our religious beliefs or our sexual orientation. In the meantime, we hope that the suspects in the murder of John O'Connell will be brought to trial and that justice will be meted out based on the crime committed, regardless of the religious affiliations of any of the accused.

Affirmation/Gay & Lesbian Mormons
San Francisco Chapter

Was Jesus Gay?

★ The recent plethora of articles and letters to the editor about various aspects of religion and human rights for Gays invites a myriad of different responses.

First, let's not confuse the anti-human-rights practices of Mormons with Christianity. And don't forget that Bishop O'Connor is not about to delay that cardinal's hat by appearing to be Christian rather than Roman in his pronouncements and acts.

This writer, however, wants particularly to take issue with the statement of James Gibbons (23 August) that Jesus of Nazareth "had to be Gay." The fact is that we know nothing whatever about the sexual orientation of Jesus. It is recorded that he did praise the marriage bond but, contrariwise, also asked would-be followers to desert wives and families to follow him.

We must realize that the first accounts we have of the birth of Jesus were not recorded until nearly one hundred years after that birth, as was Luke's story about the appearance of Jesus before rabbis at age 12 (bar mitzvah?). Those three accounts, one in Matthew and two in Luke, the only account of Jesus before age 30, had to be based on world-of-mouth transmitted tales, subject to interpretation and embellishment.

Mark, the earliest written of the extant gospels, starts, as all should have, with the truly important gospel story, supposedly begun at about age 30, about the acts and statements of the greatest proponent of love for others that our world has yet known. If Jesus was then 30, as Mark says, he was at an age when Jewish boys would have been married and had families for 10 years already. In fact, however, we know nothing whatever about his family life, other than accounts of a mother and brothers and sisters who were then alive. We are told, too, that those family members rejected Jesus at an early stage in his ministry, but we are given no reasons for that rejection. Could he have angered his family by having deserted wife or wives (polygamy was then still practiced) and children to pursue his God-directed mission? Could he have been homosexual?

No one can say categorically that Jesus was or was not married, was or was not a father, was or was not homosexual. It is futile, foolish, and divisive to make categorical statements affirming any of the three. What is important are the teachings — not the sexual proclivities of Jesus.

Fred R. Methered
Honolulu

Reagan, et al

★ Surely the funniest statement to appear in print in a long time was that failure to mention human rights for Gays in the Republican platform was a "distinct relief — and victory" (3 Aug.).

Victory? Because Reagan was "really quite gentle" in refusing to voice any support for human rights for Gays? Or in playing up to Falwell & Co., who, in their latest viciousness from Lynchburg, ask for money, money, money to fight any kind of Gay rights acceptance?

Any Gay person who left Dallas with thoughts of voting to return the Falwell-Reagan combine to power for four more years should have his/her head examined.

Fred R. Methered
Honolulu, HI

Go to Camp

★ With "Wilderness Experience" and "Weekend Safaris" (to nowhere) screwing us over, it's nice to know that one Gay Summer Camp is legitimate, affordable, non-profit and fun. Camp Never Never Land can be had for \$89 for the weekend of 21-23 Sept. (try doing a typical Castro or Folsom weekend on less than that!). All meals, accommodations, and entertainment are included. Some Gay businesses (All American Boy, Headlines, etc.) have donated merchandise to some events such as Bingo Night, and 100% of those profits will be given to the SF AIDS Foundation. So call 647-CAMP and come to camp! I am!

Ron Kraus
San Francisco

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YOM KIPPUR
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POLITICS AND POKER

The Numbers Don't Look Good

WAYNE FRIDAY

The national election is only 6 weeks away and if one is to believe the polls, Walter Mondale and Geraldine Ferraro are in a lot of political trouble.

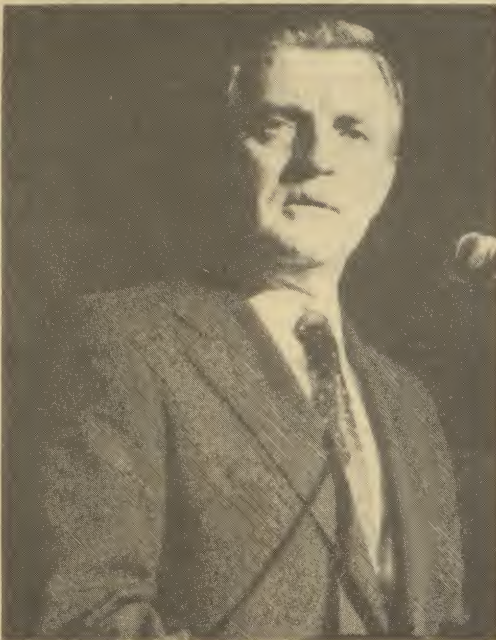
Garrett, who was here for the Toklas dinner, expressed surprise and suggested that the polls, though showing Reagan ahead, were "probably way off."

While I certainly don't expect the national co-chair of the Mondale effort to concede defeat, the NBC poll, released over the weekend, indeed shows Reagan leading Mondale by an incredible 62 to 32 percent.

To add further to the woes of the Democrats, the NBC poll revealed that the popularity of Geraldine Ferraro, who was put on the ticket to attract voters, has now diminished considerably since the Democratic Convention held in July here in San Francisco.

The Mondale campaign has opened a campaign headquarters in San Francisco at 25 Taylor Street, but as of press time there still was no phone number available.

Both national campaigns announced this week that agreement had been reached for two Reagan-Mondale debates — Oct. 7 in Louisville and another on Oct. 21 in Kansas City.



World-Record Poll Vault. That's what Walter Mondale will need to jump ahead of Ronald Reagan this November. (Photo: Rink)

hold one TV debate Oct. 11 in Philadelphia.

On the local election scene, endorsement meetings — always important in San Francisco politics — are being held almost nightly.

and Eleanor Davis. The San Francisco Labor Council endorsed last week with veteran Supervisor John Molinari getting the highest number of votes, followed by incumbents Harry Britt, Willie Kennedy, Louise Renne and Carol Ruth Silver.

Mayor Feinstein and Congresswoman Sala Burton are bumping heads over the bat-

tion conference in Washington later this month. At the big party for Jack Molinari given last week by Dianne Feinstein and Dick Blum, there was plenty of speculation on whether or not the mayor would take on Alan Cranston, with several urging Dianne to make the race.

San Diego County Sheriff John Duffy claimed last week that his department has never denied employment to Gays solely because of their sexual orientation, but then turned around and said the department will continue to exclude Gays from hiring because of "security reasons."

In Mississippi last week, Walter Mondale was asked by a college senior how he could run on a platform that was "pro-abortion, pro-Gay rights and anti-religion" and Mondale replied heatedly that "I saw Mr. Reagan on a news conference a couple of months ago and someone said what about homosexuals."



John Wahl (Photo: Rink)

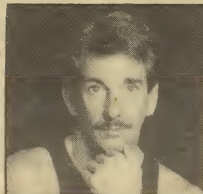
by Ed Koch, failed to win nomination to a full term in last Tuesday's election, placing second. Thom will serve until the end of this year on the mayoral appointment.

The Chronicle editorially supports the state lottery (Prop. 37). You think they don't believe in mud-slinging in the East Bay? At Monday night's CRIR meeting, Walt Layson, the GOP nominee for the state senate against Senator Dan Boatwright in the 7th District, accused Boatwright of lying "about everything from the numbers of legislative bills to the relationship with his mistress" (and that was only the beginning).

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Actress-activist Jane Fonda is the main attraction at a \$250 per plate luncheon to raise funds for the Harry Britt re-election campaign next Wednesday at the Clift Hotel (cocktails at 11:45 a.m.; lunch at 12:15; 771-3200 for info).

Hoping to give "Moral support," Governor Duke has accepted the honorary chairmanship of the campaign against a state lottery (Prop. 37). Other opponents of this needed initiative include Leo McCarthy, and Attorney General Van de Kamp.



Barbarella Meets the Supe. Not the name of a sequel for Jane Fonda's '60s sci-fi film, but an apt title for a Harry Britt fundraiser next Wednesday. (Photo: Rink)



When the Legislation Gets Tough, the tough go shopping. So say Barbara Boxer (l.) and Sala Burton (r.) who represent San Francisco and the north Bay Area in Congress. They shop together in Washington, they say. They'll be shopping for support for Gay rights at Alliance fundraiser. (Photo: Rink)

Gays, Democrats and The City's New PAC

Congressman Barney Frank Set for Swank Fundraiser

by Allen White

Barney Frank is coming to San Francisco and he is coming as a successful fighter for Gay rights. Congressman Frank represents the Fourth District of Massachusetts. He is the man who defined the importance of Gay and Lesbian rights to Walter Mondale's campaign and to others at the Democratic National Convention.

His appearance will be to raise money to help finance campaigns of elected officials who support Gay and Lesbian civil rights. The event is the Fall '84 Fundraising Dinner and Campaign Reception of The Alliance, a state political action committee.

The Alliance hopes to add tens of thousands of dollars to what has already been raised by similar state and national organizations. These organizations have raised more than a million dollars this year, solely for the purpose of backing candidates who support Gay rights.

Bill Kraus, an aide to Congresswoman Sala Burton, talked about Frank's role in the Democrats' "Gay plank." Kraus served on the platform committee of the 1984 Democratic National Convention and he observed and participated with Barney Frank in the process that gave many clear-cut victories to Gay men and Lesbians.

"Barney Frank," said Kraus, "is one of the primary reasons the specific wording regarding Gay men and Lesbians is in the platform." Frank was an inside Mondale supporter at the platform hearings and was in a position because of his congressional position and his backing of Mondale to exert enormous influence on the final draft of the Democratic platform. The wording in the platform is very short, only two sentences, yet its symbolic effect is of extreme political importance.

The Democratic Party platform says, "Violent acts of bigotry, hatred, and extremism aimed at women, racial, ethnic, and religious minorities, and Gay men and Lesbians have be-

sexual orientation."

These words are currently being used against Democratic candidates in the South and in other areas of the country. The framers of the platform were fully aware of the backlash that could be created by the insertion of these words in the platform. They were also aware of the stand they were making for the rights of all people as they wrote the platform.

These anti-Gay smear campaigns are financed, for the most part, by what are called political action committees or PACs. The Moral Majority, for example, is a PAC.

The Bay Area Non-Partisan Alliance is one of several PACs which have been formed to fight the anti-Gay right. Earlier this year a Southern California organization called MECLA raised over a quarter of a million dollars at one single dinner.

The national Human Rights Campaign Fund has raised well over half a million dollars and it still has three major East Coast dinners to present this year.

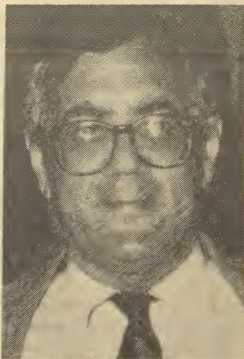
In San Francisco, Bay Area Reporter publisher Bob Ross coordinated the Human Rights Campaign Fund and the Alliance group to raise over \$20,000 in net profit at a dinner last May. Ross noted that this was the first of a planned annual series of dinners.

The dinner next Friday night for Barney Frank is co-hosted by Congresswomen Barbara Boxer and Sala Burton with The Alliance. Tables sell for \$1,000 each, or \$125 per person.

In October, the PAC will recycle the money to help candidates who support the Gay movement. Candidates who supported AB-1, the Gay rights employment bill, and who face legislative hurdles, will find Gay money in their corner helping them win in November. Politicians such as State Sen. H.L. Richardson who have fought Gay rights may find that cold hard cash from Gays is being spent to work for their defeat.

Kraus noted that the appearance of Barney Frank from Massachusetts, who represents a conservative district, is symbolically important. Frank gained office when he defeated Margaret Heckler. "His appearance," said Kraus, "brings the power and the prestige of the Congress of the United States to our side."

The dinner is set for Friday, Sept. 28, at the Mark Hopkins Hotel. Cocktails start at 6 p.m. and dinner will be served at 7:30 p.m. Telephone 392-2800 or 552-5600 for more information.



Barney Frank (Photo: Rink)

come an alarmingly common phenomenon. A Democratic Administration will work vigorously to address, document, and end all such violence." There they are for the first time in the history of a political platform, the words "Gay men and Lesbians."

In addition, the platform also contains the following remarks: "All groups must be protected from discrimination based on race, color, sex, religion, national origin, language, age, or sexual orientation. We will support legislation to prohibit discrimination in the workplace based on sexual orientation. We will assure that sexual orientation per se does not serve as a bar to participation in the military. We will support an enhanced effort to learn the cause and cure of AIDS, and to provide treatment for people with AIDS. And we will ensure that foreign citizens are not excluded from this country on the basis of their

Marks Urges AIDS Panel to Redirect Funds for Education Programs

State Sen. Milton Marks (R-San Francisco/Marin) testified Sept. 7 before the State AIDS Advisory Committee to urge the committee to redirect up to \$350,000 of state AIDS funds for AIDS education programs. Marks, who co-authored SB-910 which created the AIDS Committee, and who introduced \$1 million into the State Budget in 1984 for AIDS education programs, was concerned that \$350,000 of the funds were being diverted from AIDS education to other AIDS programs.

"The original intent of the appropriation was clear," said Marks, and he suggested to the committee that the other AIDS programs be funded by the state surplus, not by funds earmarked for AIDS education. "We are talking about a minuscule amount compared to the hundreds of millions of dollars in the state surplus. Yet, if we ensure that these monies go for their original purpose, we will be able to double the amount spent on AIDS education this year over

last year," Marks added.

Marks also urged the committee to devise a more equitable way to distribute AIDS education monies statewide. Last year, many observers felt that San Francisco was shortchanged by the state. He suggested that a "matching formula" be used, so that for every \$5 raised locally for AIDS education, the state would contribute \$1. By using such a formula, communities who have responded to the crisis such as San Francisco will not be punished, and those who have not responded will be motivated to begin the fight against AIDS.

Finally, Marks thanked the state's Health Services staff for responding to constructive criticism of their Request for Proposals (RFP's) for AIDS education by liberalizing their criteria so that proposals from San Francisco would be evaluated strictly on their merits, and for organizing a workshop on Sept. 11 on the RFP for proponents from San Francisco.

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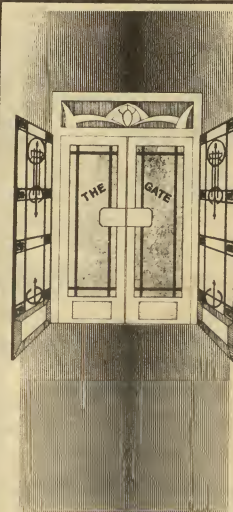
Volunteer Training At Gay and Lesbian Outreach to Elders

Gay and Lesbian Outreach to Elders (GLOE) at Operation Concern is looking for new volunteers to assist with office administration, workshops, social events, fundraising, outreach, women's and men's groups, and to serve as friendly visitors.

To prepare these new volunteers, there will be a special training held, with an orientation on Friday, Sept. 21, from 7 to 9 p.m., and sessions on Saturday, Sept. 22, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Prior registration will be necessary.

For further information, call coordinators, Sheryl Goldberg or Ray Ankrom, at 626-7000.



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ON THE JOB: GAY PEOPLE AT WORK

Madison Avenue's Gay Ad Man

ARTHUR LAZERER, C.P.A.

Joe DiSabato found his first Gay sex and his first lover through personal ads in *The Aquarian*, an alternative newspaper. How appropriate that seems for the man who later became the major national salesperson of advertising in the Gay press, and the founder of the Gay Press Association.

DiSabato, now 37, grew up in Harrison, an unfashionable residential enclave in the midst of industrial New Jersey flatlands just outside of New York City. He comes on like the stereotypical New Yorker — bright and articulate, assertive, competitive, self-assured.

At home, he was made acutely aware of the importance of the family image. DiSabato, Sr. was an attorney and a judge in Harrison; his prominence in town put the whole family in the public eye. An altar boy, Joe made his way through a parochial grammar school, an all-boys Catholic high school, and Jesuit-run Fordham University, from which he graduated with a Phi Beta Kappa key and a magna cum laude degree in political science. The family programmed him to become a lawyer. The Catholic schools tempted him with the priesthood.

Joe was aware of his attraction to men early on, but both the family image and the Catholic education held his sexuality in check. He read in a pamphlet that homosexuality was a pass-

ing adolescent phase. "I thought that as long as I didn't do anything, I would be sure to get over this phase of desire. The church led me to believe that I would burn in hell if I was Gay."

DiSabato's college years were the late '60s and, like many of his contemporaries, he was enjoying the exhilarating sounds of the revitalized rock music of the period. During his senior year he taught a course at Fordham Free University on the history and criticism of rock music. He also wrote criticism for a rock newspaper.

He decided he wanted to get a job programming a rock radio station and used his role as a journalist as the basis for paying calls on New York's radio stations. DiSabato knew the music, but he also fit the corporate image — clean-cut appearance, short hair, Ivy League clothes.

His ability to bridge his interest in the counterculture music with his establishment appearance landed him a job programming the music for the American Broadcasting Company's FM network. "I walked into the music business at the executive level. I ran a recording and it became a hit because it got instant exposure on a rotating basis on 23 major market radio stations." Over the following years, Joe jumped from ABC to MCA Records and then to RCA, developing his skills at marketing and promotion.

While his career was develop-

ing apace, Joe's personal life wasn't. He knew that he could no longer repress his sexuality. Fearful of going to Gay bars, he used the personal ads and claims to have met at least 100 people through the ads before he went to bed with anyone. He met Peter, his first lover, through the ads; a year later Peter and he were living together in the upper flat above Joe's mother's lower flat.

When the relationship with Peter ended, Joe decided to live in New York City. "When I moved to New York, *Gaysweek* had an incredible impact on me. It was my first exposure to a real Gay newspaper. I had had trouble in coming to terms with my sexuality. *Gaysweek* made me feel good about myself. Writing such as David Rothenberg's, which dealt with positive self-image, had a great impact on me. If more Gay people could read that kind of stuff in Gay papers, more Gay people would come out and it would be easier for all of us."

Meanwhile, Joe was starting Rivendell Music, his own management and record production company. (In Tolkien's *Lord of the Rings*, Rivendell is the place where the elves make the most beautiful music in Middle Earth.) But by then, in the late 1970s, the music business had fallen off badly and DiSabato had to find a new direction.

He had seen the record industry pioneer efforts to market to Gays; the success of disco music was seen as originating in the Gay market. The combination of a newly perceived Gay market and a growing number of newspapers to reach that market spelled opportunity to DiSabato, the avid reader of *Gaysweek*.

"My feeling was that there had to be a larger infusion of advertising revenues to build the Gay press into a professional institution which would have the impact on the Gay community that it ought to have," he remembers. Rivendell signed on an initial group of about a dozen Gay newspapers for which it acted as national advertising representative. In the five years since, DiSabato's portfolio has grown to some 125 publications. His initial successes were with record, book, and motion picture advertisements. Further inroads were made with the liquor and pharmaceutical industries.

In addition to selling advertising to these clients, Rivendell packages entire marketing campaigns, including promotional ideas and press relations. For example, book and film reviews (and the timing of such reviews) are seen as crucial to the success of advertising campaigns for those products.

This is an area where

DiSabato has been controversial within the Gay publishing business. Publishers and editors prefer to keep the editorial content of their publications independent of their advertisers. Pressure from advertisers for reviews or editorial mention of their products is generally resisted as an intrusion on the editor's prerogatives, if not a breach of journalistic ethics.

DiSabato seems to have learned from his experience. He says, for example, that he does not pressure editors into printing book reviews, but if they are going to run a review anyway, then the effective time to do so is just before the ads appear. The ads will remind the reader of a review previously read and reinforce the impulse to buy the book.

The New York Times knows how to do that and it is viewed as professional, rather than unethical," he insists. "The Gay press generally doesn't understand how products are marketed and, therefore, they haven't been very helpful to businesses in helping those businesses market to their readers. As a result, the original breakthrough with book publishers has been lost. Book publishers' ads have dried up."

DiSabato, taking the longer view, recognizes that our communities and our newspapers are, for the most part, less than 15 years old. While he perceives an increased level of professionalism in recent years, he believes that our newspapers have not come far enough for serious consideration by Madison Avenue advertisers. (Only *The Advocate* among Gay newspapers provides audited circulation figures.)

Other problems face the Gay press. Many advertisers question the value of segmented marketing, which is what any minority press offers. There is, too, the problem of homophobia. From his first-hand experience DiSabato points out that "in some cases closeted Gays on Madison Avenue are reluctant to recommend going into the Gay market because of fear of having their closets blown open."

Equally predictable is Joe's story of convincing a non-Gay Vice President of a distilling company to recommend an ad campaign in the Gay press. His boss's response: "Maybe you should spend more time with your wife."

Still, DiSabato believes that he is dealing in an incredibly at-

'There had to be a larger infusion of advertising revenues to build the Gay press into a professional institution.'

DiSabato's conviction that the Gay press needed more professionalism led him to organize the Gay Press Association (recently renamed the Gay and Lesbian Press Association) in 1981. He was President of the group for two years and continues on its board of directors. The most significant undertaking of the GLPA has been its attempt, spearheaded by DiSabato, to create a Gay wire service — a national computerized communications system delivering news and feature articles instantly to Gay publications.

This project became mired in controversy. As of the GLPA meetings in Los Angeles last Memorial Day, the wire service appeared to be just about defunct, with few stories being placed on the service and fewer papers picking up the stories. The concept of the Gay press leaping into the computer age, while appealing in many ways, was, perhaps, ahead of its time. With most papers in our communities publishing on biweekly or monthly schedules, the value of instant communications would seem to be marginal.

He responded: "The Gay market and the Gay community are not one and the same. The Gay market is that part of the Gay community that you can reach through the 'y media.' And, of course, that brings us back to the upscale, urban, white, Gay male. One doesn't doubt the validity of DiSabato's technical definition, but worries, nonetheless, whether his distinction between market and community is made by the readers of the *Times*."



Home is where the hardware is. Joe DiSabato in his New York apartment, which he shares with a computer — nerve center of his marketing network. (Photo: Gene Bagnato)



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Tutu Much. A hammin' and a jammin' is a Pure Trash tradition — but this kind of wailing has gone the way of the other kind. (Photo: Rink)

For Whom the New Bell Tolls: Last Act for Kelsey & Trash

And We Just Loved Those Rodent Earrings

by Allen White

A five-year Gay entertainment tradition, David Kelsey & Pure Trash, came to an end last weekend at the New Bell Saloon on Polk Street. Saturday night, the seven original members returned for one emotion-packed evening.

Clarinetist David Clerici had flown up from Los Angeles. Trumpeter Richard Best had driven up from Southern California. Drummer John Orlando read about the final night in the *B.A.R.* Saxophonist Jeff Glines spent two hours going through a closet to find something to wear. Trombonist Stuart Cox got his invite from someone in Southern California.

Trumpeter Sid Smith and David Kelsey, the two original members in the group, viewed the evening as much a beginning as an end.

Since July 1979, David Kelsey & Pure Trash have performed almost every Sunday night at the New Bell Saloon. Kelsey told the audience that given what the community and the members have been through, "It was simply incredible that the whole group is back together again." Though there was some talk of possible reunions, they all knew last weekend was the end.

The group became an instant success when it was first created. In their first six months of existence, they were hired to play for several Harry Britt fundraisers as he scrambled for votes in his race for supervisor. Britt didn't forget as he presented the group with a Certificate of Honor from the Board of Supervisors and gave each member an individually framed letter of thanks.

The party celebrating Harry Britt's victory in 1979 at the now defunct "Shed" on Market Street was one of the wildest political victory parties held. Thousands jammed the building to hear David Kelsey & Pure Trash. The *San Francisco Examiner* gave the Britt campaign credit for having a cheerleader to hype the crowd. The cheerleader was trumpeter Richard Best in a pom pom drag he quickly put on after closing his teller station early at a savings and loan where he worked.

They rehearsed tirelessly and thrived on their outrageousness. The group arrived at a 1980 Mission High School concert inside of garbage cans. They ransacked thrift stores for costumes and gimmicks. Most importantly, they never stopped expressing their Gay pride and they worked as professionals.

They claimed among their

most devoted fans *Chronicle* columnist Herb Caen and Beach Blanket Babylon producer Steven Silver. It was not unusual for stars such as Lauren Bacall to drop in and catch their Sunday night New Bell performances.

Their fans were not disappointed last Saturday night as

the group made three costume changes through the night. Their leader, David Kelsey, was the only one who chose not to make a costume change. He said he had to put too much effort into his drag, wearing a "garbage dress" with old dried tomatoes and other vegetables which complemented his earrings — two dead mice. ■

NYC Rights Agency Cites Rise in Complaints of Anti-Gay Bias

New York - The Human Rights Commission has released a report which reveals a sharp increase in the number of complaints of discrimination based on sexual orientation reported to the commission. In the first eight months of the Gay and Lesbian Discrimination Documentation Project (November 1983 through June 1984) the commission recorded 82 complaints of discrimination against Gay men and Lesbians. The complaints include alleged job and housing discrimination, exclusion from public accommodations such as stores, bars, or restaurants, and instances of anti-Gay violence.

Before the documentation project began, only eleven discrimination complaints based on sexual orientation had been registered with the commission.

The report also points out the effect that the AIDS crisis has had upon the rise in discrimination against Gay and Lesbian New Yorkers. Although AIDS cannot be contracted through ordinary or casual contact, many homophobic individuals have unfortunately used the existence of AIDS to rationalize bias against Gays under the guise of an alleged concern for health.

In 1983, the New York City Commission on Human Rights began receiving AIDS and AIDS-related complaints of discrimination; along with this influx came an unprecedented number of complaints of discrimination based on sexual orientation.

"The AIDS crisis appears to have highlighted the discrimination Gay men and Lesbians experience, as evidenced by the dramatic rise in the past year of the number of complaints we received based on sexual orientation," the report states.

New York City Commission on Human Rights Chairperson, Dr. Marcella Maxwell said, "It is time to guarantee the Gay and Lesbian community of New York the same rights and equal protection under the law promised to all other New Yorkers. The large number of complaints

'Many have used AIDS to rationalize bias (against Gays).'

received by this commission alleging anti-Gay discrimination indicates the immediate need for protective legislation."

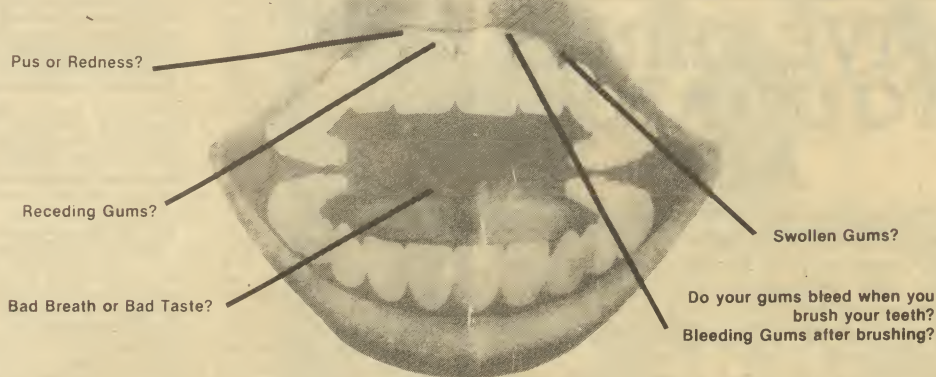
The report dramatically reveals the scope of anti-Gay and Lesbian complaints received by the commission. During the same period that the commission received 10.2 anti-Gay discrimination complaints per month (November 1983 - June 1984), an average of 51.9 complaints per month were filed at the commission based on all other types of discrimination combined, including race, color, sex, national origin, age, creed, handicap, and marital status. Anti-Gay complaints made up 16 percent of all incoming complaints during that period.

The commission's documentation project staff record all complaints of anti-Gay discrimination even if they cannot formally accept the complaint for investigation. If possible, commission staff informally intervene in an attempt to resolve the situation.

Although the commission has limited jurisdiction to investigate anti-Gay bias based on Mayor Koch's Executive Order No. 4, which bars discrimination based on sexual orientation in city agencies and/or by city agents, commission staff have been reaching out to the Gay community pursuant to its general mandate "to study the problems of prejudice, intolerance, bigotry, and discrimination . . . in all or any fields of human relationship."

Working with Gay community groups such as the Gay and Lesbian Anti-Violence Project, the commission's Neighborhood Stabilization Program has also assigned staff to investigate reported instances of anti-Gay violence. ■

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Downbeat Mood At Toklas Fete

**Straight Talk on Gay Defeats;
Mayor Skips, Earns a Few Boos**

by George Mendenhall

It was a depressingly candid but refreshingly honest banquet this week when the Alice B. Toklas Lesbian/Gay Democratic Club told it as it was — without any musicians or comics to break the mood. The 500 who had paid \$50 each honored Virginia Apuzzo, Executive Director of the National Gay Task Force, and Allan Berube, a Gay historian known for his popular slide show presentations. An estimated \$10,000 profit from the affair will go into the club's political war chest.

The crowd heard the stark truth about the AIDS crisis, the Governor's veto of AB-1, the possible landslide re-election of President Reagan, and increased harassment of Lesbians and Gay men in the military. Relief came from MC John Molinari, member of the Board of Super-

visors, who at one point led some members of the audience in a rousing cheer against his opponent for presidency of the Board, Quentin Kopp.

'ONE HELLUVA MOVEMENT'

"We are, in every sense of the word, fighting for our lives,"



Pre-Dinner Politicking, Bob Basker (c.) congratulates Dr. Mervyn Silverman (l.) for holding fast — so far — against Mayor Feinstein's "close the baths" crusade. Supervisor Richard Hongisto (r.) looks on. (Photo: Rink)

Apuzzo said. "But we have been fighting for our lives all of our lives. We have been making history with almost every move we make . . . In spite of the fact that people have used every conceivable trick of corrosive trained behavior on us, we have prevailed . . . However insignificant we may have been taught that our lives are, they are not insignificant. We are at this point in history consigned to create significance." Apuzzo concluded that her travels across the country make her realize, "we have one helluva movement."

Earlier in the evening, Duane Garrett, national co-chair of the Mondale/Ferraro campaign, told the crowd, "It will be great to have a President who will fight for the ERA and sign a bill to end discrimination against Lesbians and Gay men; to bring into national prominence Gerry Ferraro, rather than Jerry Falwell." He predicted a victory — but everyone present had seen the polls.

Supervisor Harry Britt, who is closely associated with Toklas' rival, the Milk Democratic Club, surprised the guests by stating, "Alice has grown to a membership of nearly 600 and is one of the leading grass-roots political organizations in the entire United States of America." Britt was obviously pleased with the club's endorsement for his re-election.

Assemblyman Art Agnos, who recently moved his Gay job rights bill through the legislature only to see it vetoed by the governor, was introduced three times and received one standing ovation. He was cheered when he said, "I guarantee you that the next mayor of this town will march in the Lesbian/Gay Freedom Day Parade." Some political analysts present thought he was referring to Molinari, Supervisor Richard Hongisto or himself.

There was praise and applause for many present — a political banquet ritual. Molinari said Agnos is a genius in knowing how to move bills through the legislature and claimed that Apuzzo "is there in stature in the civil rights movement with Coretta Scott King and Cesar Chavez." The club heaped praise on some of its own activist members — Margaret Frost, for producing a daily club newspaper during the Democratic National Convention; Tom Faulk for his efforts in voter registration; and Gael Shapiro, chair of the club's large Women's Caucus.

The guests, veterans of numerous political banquets, socialized during the program but came to life when Agnos was introduced midway in the pro-

gram. A sizable number stayed at the end of the evening to see Berube's dramatic and moving slide show on discrimination against Lesbians and Gay men in the military during World War II.

CONVEYING A MESSAGE

Toklas had played it safe this year after its near-fiasco last year when entertainer Jose Saria would not appear as MC at the last minute because he was told by the dinner committee chair that he could not come in drag. This year there was a no-nonsense program without entertainment.

Cleve Jones, a veteran activist, defended the serious theme of the Toklas banquet. Jones produced the relatively short and smoothly staged affair. He later urged, "It was not a negative evening. We wanted to convey a message. We wanted to tell the straight politicians present why we need their money and support. We wanted a dinner that would have emotional impact on people. We accurately presented the enormous difficulties that we face and make it clear what we are up against. We did not want just another political dinner. We wanted people to think."

Few political banquets this

year had the cross-section of prestigious politicians and organizations that Toklas attracted. City officials present included District Attorney Arlo Smith, Public Defender Jeff Brown, Assessor Sam Duca, Community College Board President Tim Wolfred, most of the Board of Supervisors, and Bill Tom and Libby Denebeim of the Board of Education. Two supervisors notably missing were Board President Wendy Nelder and candidate for re-election, Quentin Kopp.

Distinguished guests also included Tim Twomey, President of the San Francisco Central Labor Council; Walter Johnson, President of the Department Store Employees local; state senate candidate Lia Belli; Rev. Cecil Williams of Glide Methodist Church; Jack Campbell, longtime Gay rights activist from Miami, Florida; and the chair of the San Francisco Democratic Central Committee, Linda Post. Municipal Judges Herb Donaldson, Mary Morgan, and Phil Moscone were seen applauding the speakers.

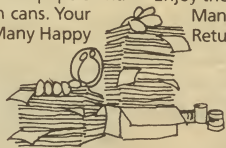
Tables had been purchased by many of the officials in attendance as well as the National Gay Task Force, Assemblyman Willie Brown, the Latino Democratic Club, the Chinese-Amer-

(Continued on next page)

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Toklas President Named to Human Rights Commission

"This appointment gives me special pleasure," said Mayor Dianne Feinstein this week when she appointed Sal Rosselli, President of the Alice B. Toklas Lesbian/Gay Democratic Club, to the city's Human Rights Commission. The mayor said, "Sal is a man of wide experience in this community, and his great awareness and sensitivity will be a valuable addition to this important City commission."

Rosselli joins Lesbian Phyllis Lyon on the commission. Lyon is the longtime chair of the advisory body, which investigates discrimination complaints and often successfully applies pressure to resolve them. The Toklas official is replacing Richard Sevilla, who had served on the 15-person commission. Sevilla recently moved to Long Beach, California.

The Toklas club defended Feinstein in the effort to recall her last year. Rosselli opposed the recall and more recently served on the mayor's Equal Benefits Task Force, which recommended that the mayor begin the process of including Gay people who are partners of city



Sal Rosselli (Photo: Rink)

employees in the city health plan. She rejected the idea.

Rosselli is currently a union agent for the Hospital and Institutional Workers, Service Employees International Union. Earlier, he served as the Business Agent for the local Theatre Janitors local. He also serves on the new state Advisory Committee on AIDS.



(Photo: Rink)

Facts, Hope, Moral Fervor: Ginny Apuzzo's Gay Crusade

*She Travels the Nation Like a Candidate,
Seeking Hearts and Minds, Not Votes*

by Allen White

"Gays are people," says Virginia Apuzzo. Last Friday she related how she still tried to get this simple message across to her mother. Professionally, she is the Executive Director of the National Gay Task Force. Still, the message for her mother is the same message she offers the nation.

Currently, Apuzzo is generally acknowledged as the leader in the Gay rights movement in the United States. She is constantly traveling and her impact has been felt in every corner of the country.

A year ago she emerged as the Gay person who could communicate the need for a Lesbian to speak at the 20th anniversary of the Martin Luther King "March on Washington." She is the person who is looked to for advice by elected officials when dealing with matters concerning the Lesbian and Gay community.

Her fight for AIDS funding has been nonstop, with NGTF constantly prodding for additional money from the federal government. Apuzzo has made it her job to know when the moves by government are rhetorical — and when they have substance.

Last July she arrived for the Democratic Convention and with only four hours' sleep appeared on the CBS Morning News at the air time of 4 a.m. She knew the prime area relating to Gays and Lesbians in the Democratic platform was a call for protection against anti-Gay violence.

Rather than simply be available for interviews, she arrived with a purpose. She had documented information regarding anti-Gay violence. During the Democratic Convention, an interview with Ginny Apuzzo was an interview on anti-Gay violence. It was logical, it was informed, and she sold her message.

As at the Democratic Convention, Ginny Apuzzo is constantly on the move. Last weekend she was in the San Francisco area. Her schedule was virtually nonstop. On Thursday night she appeared and spoke at a fundraiser for the Bay Area Non-Partisan Alliance and the Bay Area Career Women and Sutter's Mill.

Friday night she was honored at the annual dinner of the Alice B. Toklas Club at the Hotel Meridien. On Saturday she was back in San Francisco for an Old-Fashioned Town Meeting and Ice Cream Social, which was another benefit. To cap off Sunday night, she gave another speech, a speaker at the Federal Lesbians & Gays (FLAG) organization.

Sunday morning she was over in Oakland for a brunch in her honor. In the afternoon she was to High Tech Gays in Silicon Valley. That totals six public appearances in addition to radio, television, and newspaper interviews.

As she speaks she can instantly pick out the bias and the bigotry of those who not only oppress Gay men and Lesbians but all other people. She arrives prepared with facts that confirm the tremendous forces across the country that are fighting against Lesbians and Gay men. It is equally within her ability to bring into focus the sparkle and the clarity of the Gay movement as a jeweler would exhibit a fine gem.

As she speaks, Virginia Apuzzo makes the heart beat faster as she exclaims, "We have one helluva movement. We have one helluva challenge." She then concludes with the evangelical fervor and concern she would give her own mother as she tells Lesbians and Gay men, "We know we matter." She repeats

the remark to make sure it sinks in, "We know we matter."

It is that inspiration which today makes Virginia Apuzzo unquestionably the leader of the Lesbian and Gay movement. ■

Gay Lawyers Seek to Block Rights Referendum in MD

National Gay Rights Advocates (NGRA) has gone to the Maryland Court of Appeals to defend the Montgomery County, Maryland, Board of Elections decision canceling a referendum on a Gay rights law.

In February of this year, the Montgomery County Council voted to extend its general human rights law to ban sexual orientation discrimination in employment, housing, and public accommodations. Petitions to require a referendum were immediately circulated by the anti-Gay "Citizens for Decent Government" and certified by the county on June 28.

After a suit was threatened to halt the election, the Board reversed the earlier certification. It was then sued by the proponents of the repeal effort. The trial court permitted the election and NGRA has now appealed.

The validity of the petitions has been challenged on several grounds. Leonard Graff, Legal Director of NGRA, said, "The format of the petitions is legally deficient because they do not comply with the requirements of state law. In addition, fraudulent representations were made in order to procure signatures."

Graff said he believes that, because there are so many viola-

tions of the election law, the court will agree that the referendum should not be on the ballot.

Jean O'Leary, Executive Director of NGRA, said, "It is fundamentally unfair to submit the civil rights of a minority to a vote. History has shown that such an election is unwinnable. We want to stop this election because it only encourages hate and bigotry." O'Leary noted that this marks the first time Gay men and women have gone to court in an attempt to halt the repeal of a human rights ordinance.

The first, and most famous, ballot contest was in Dade County, Florida, in 1977. There, Anita Bryant and Rev. Jerry Falwell were successful in a campaign to rescind the local law protecting Gays in employment and housing. In the next few years, similar laws went down to defeat in St. Paul, Minnesota; Wichita, Kansas; Eugene, Oregon; Santa Clara County, California; and Lincoln, Nebraska.

Working with NGRA on the case is civil rights attorney Susan Silber, the Women's Legal Defense Fund, and the prestigious Washington, D.C. law firm Covington & Burling. ■

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Toklas Fete

(Continued from previous page)

ican Democratic Club candidate for supervisor Kevin Starr.

Mayor DiAnne Feinstein had a table but did not attend. The mayor, who for some time was a regular MC of the Toklas banquets, appeared only briefly at last year's affair. Feinstein has been criticized recently for her demand that the city's Gay bathhouses be closed and for rejecting her own task force's report that called for the Lesbian and Gay partners of city employees to be included in the city health plan. There were some audience boos and hissing when Feinstein was mentioned during the Toklas banquet.

The mayor appointed the president of Toklas, Sal Rosselli, to the city's Human Rights Commission just before the banquet began. Rosselli chose not to make mention of the appointment during the event. ■

G. Mendenhall



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Matters of Life and Death Are Daily Tasks for Counselors

It Takes Training, Time, and Special Temperament To Provide Peer Counseling for People With AIDS

Second of Two Parts

by Mike Hippler

Carol, Tim, John, and Mark are Shanti counselors. They have last names but do not use them at Shanti functions. They also have ages, occupations, and other vital statistics, but none of this matters on Monday night, the night of their weekly support group meetings. It is then that they gather at the home of one of their support group leaders, Carol, to discuss their experiences of the preceding week. Because their clients are people with AIDS, and their organization is one devoted to assisting people with life-threatening illnesses, there is much to discuss.

All four — Carol, Tim, John, and Mark — became Shanti counselors for one of two reasons. They had friends with AIDS and needed to be of use, however indirect; or they simply felt a general concern about the AIDS crisis and wanted to do something specific to help.

They knew that their involvement with the Shanti Project would require a commitment of eight hours a week over the course of a year (since reduced to six hours a week for six months), but they believed it would be worth it. True, it meant that they might have to miss *The Love Boat* on TV once in a while, but they were willing to make sacrifices.

The first step in becoming a Shanti counselor, they found, is the completion of a demanding application form. According to John, "The application weeds a lot of people out. Questions such

as 'How do you deal with helplessness?' and 'Have you had a loss recently?' let you know what you're getting into. You either have the potential to be a counselor or you don't. You know that by the time you've filled out the application."

Thirty-five percent of the people who fill out applications do indeed go no further. The rest move on to the training, a 44-hour course which takes place over two weekends and is designed to give people with little or no previous counseling experience the skills they must have in order to work with people with life-threatening illnesses.

These skills are hardly complex or obscure. This is peer-counseling, after all, and not psychoanalysis. Says Tim, "One of the major qualifications is to be a good listener." Mark says, "Compassion is another." And John says, "People think you

have to have some kind of special background to do this. You don't."

Besides helping to develop and to enforce communication and listening skills, the training also has other benefits. According to John, "The training provides you with a family, a place to go where people will listen and be supportive. It also gets you in touch with a lot of your own feelings. Because the 44 hours are so intense, you know a lot more about yourself when it's

over. It also develops trust." When a counselor finally emerges from the training, he or she is matched to a client by two special coordinators who are Shanti staff members. According to Carol, the success rate for pairing compatible counselors and clients is fairly high, but sometimes things don't work out — perhaps a personality conflict arises — and a reassignment is made.

There are other reasons, however, that a counselor-client relationship does not last. Mark had a client, for instance, for only two weeks before that client decided he didn't need a counselor. "He thought he was getting a psychiatrist and didn't want that. I couldn't make him understand that that's not what I was or was supposed to be."

Clients ask for counselors for varying reasons. "Most need a sounding board," says Carol. "They want to turn to someone to unload." Specifically, they want someone neutral. "It's not at all true," Carol cautions, "that people who turn to Shanti turn because they don't have their own friends."

Adds John, "The main thing is that Shanti counselors can be objective, whereas maybe their friends can't. With us there is no past history and no judgment. They can let it all hang out."



Let it all hang out they do, of course, and the counselor's major function is simply to listen and to be supportive. "It's the little things you deal with," says Carol. "When our clients can't do the things they used to do, like walk to the top of the stairs, they share that with us."

"Or when they go to the grocery store and are asked about the marks on their face," adds Tim, "or when people are afraid to hold them." Counselors also hear about the not-so-little things, continues John, like the abandonment of friends or the fear of dying. Counselors must be prepared to discuss anything and everything.

The counselor has other roles besides that of listener. According to Tim, one is "to help the person determine what he wants to know."

(Continued on next page)

50 New AIDS Cases in August, National Total Nears 6,000

Fifty new cases of AIDS in San Francisco, a slightly lower figure from July, were reported today by Dr. Mervyn F. Silverman, Director of San Francisco Department of Public Health, for August. This brings the total number of diagnosed AIDS cases in San Francisco since January 1980 to 684. Nationwide, 5,896 cases have been recorded.

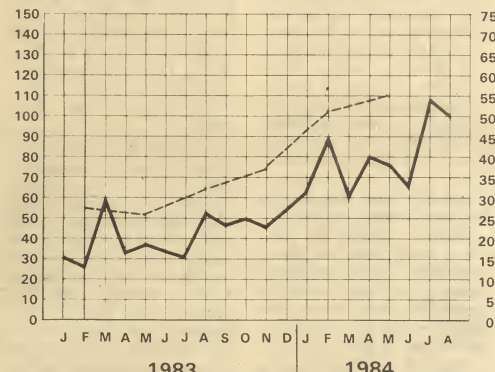
The rate of new AIDS cases reported in the city now averages 1.3 per day. These statistics accurately represent an overall continual increase in the number of AIDS cases in San Francisco during these past three summer months.

The total number of deaths of AIDS patients in San Francisco during August was 28, almost one per day, said Dr. Dean Echenberg, Director of the Health Department Bureau of Communicable Disease Control. This compares with 13 deaths in August 1983 and 5 deaths in August 1982. Out of the 684 cases reported to date, 285 people have died, for an overall case fatality rate of 42 percent.

Dr. Echenberg said that this overall case fatality rate does not truly reflect the seriousness of this disease. More than 80 percent of the people diagnosed prior to 1982 are now dead. Thus, we can expect to see an increase in the number of deaths because of the continuing increase in the number of cases, Echenberg said.

AIDS Group Seeks Members for Board

The San Francisco AIDS Foundation is currently seeking to fill several open positions on its Board of Directors. Persons interested in becoming members of this community-based, working board should ensure that a letter of interest and a resume are on file with the Foundation on or before Wednesday, Sept. 26.



NEW AIDS CASES/MONTH AND QUARTER SAN FRANCISCO

SOURCE: SF DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH

AIDS Cases (by State) as Reported by the CDC as of August 31, 1984

Residence of Cases	Number of Cases
New York State	2356
New York City	2181
California	1296
San Francisco	675
Los Angeles	469
Florida	449
Miami	259
New Jersey	371
Newark	165
Texas	255
Illinois	122
Pennsylvania	117
Massachusetts	98
Georgia	76
Washington, DC	82
Connecticut	66
Maryland	58
Virginia	51
Colorado	52
Washington	43
Louisiana	43
Ohio	30
Michigan	28
Arizona	18
Missouri	22
South Carolina	17
North Carolina	19
Hawaii	20
Indiana	16
Kentucky	13
Minnesota	14
Oregon	14
Other States	95
Puerto Rico	53
TOTAL - U.S.A.	5896

Of these, 2,688 (46%) are dead.

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Counselors Face Life and Death

(Continued from previous page)

Explains Carol, "There are a lot of things they forget to ask the doctor — maybe things like, 'Can I ride in a convertible with the top down because of the sun?' — so we go to the doctor with them. We encourage them to keep a notebook, to write things down. Then we support whatever decisions they make regarding treatment or the lack of it."

John carries this responsibility even further by doing medical research for his client. "I want him to be able to make the best-informed decisions possible," he says.

Tim tells a story about a doctor who spent 20 minutes searching for his client's artery so that he could administer a blood gas test. His client was in excruciating pain but bore it without complaining.

Says Tim, "He had the right to refuse treatment by that particular doctor, but he didn't realize it until I told him so. This is the kind of thing that he hadn't thought about — his rights as a person with AIDS."

Because counselors and clients discuss such intimate matters on a daily basis, often their relationship develops into something more than a professional, detached respect for one another. John notes, there is a growth process that happens. Relationships can grow into real friendships. For some people, it's the most meaningful relationship in their lives.

However, due to the nature of the clients' illness, the relationship is a special one. Tim explains, "My client and I have become friends, but from the first moment I met him, I knew the relationship was finite."

Carol tries not to dwell on this possibility — this probability? — of death. "I don't project ahead, I'm there for the moment," is how she phrases it. But John admits that it is difficult not to think of people with AIDS as dying people.

"Yes, ultimately I think about death. It's difficult not to, for everyone I know has gotten



Shanti counselors meet weekly to offer support. (Photo: Rink)

worse." Tim's reaction to this dilemma is simple. "We concentrate on the living," he explains.

"We both know he's dying, but we concentrate on the day-to-day things, the problems that exist, and how to make tomorrow worthwhile."

If and when death does come for their clients, the Shanti counselors say they will react in different ways. John states the obvious. "It won't be easy. I freak when they go to the hospital now. You're not detached or superhuman. You can't be."

Tim admits, "In some ways I think I will feel relief to have it over with. I'll also have a sense of loss for all that we've shared. I hope I'll also feel glad for a job well done for both of us."

For Tim, death is easier to accept, for it isn't the end. "He won't be here in a physical sense, but he will be in other ways."

Understandably, although their primary concern is for their clients, counselors do worry about themselves as well. "I think we all do," acknowledges

Carol. "There's nothing strange about that. There is so much about AIDS that is unknown."

They do not fear contamination through their clients, of course, but because of their position, they are more aware of their general vulnerability than most people are.

One points out that his T-suppressor/T-helper ratio is worse than that of many AIDS people, which is one indicator that his immune system is functioning poorly. Another talks about the first time he discovered a spot on his leg and his fear when one of his sexual partners had developed AIDS.

Despite these fears, however — and perhaps partly because of them — all four counselors plan

to continue their involvement with Shanti as long as there is the need. Carol, who has been with the project for over a year, says she will continue "because it helps to overcome the feeling of powerlessness in the face of this nightmare called AIDS."

Fulfilling this need, she continues, has led to enormous benefits, for herself as well as for her client. "Selfishly, the project has given me as much as I've given to it. Besides getting to know and to love a lot of wonderful people that I would never have met, it has given me the opportunity to be the kind of person that you seldom get the opportunity to be."

M. Hippler

East Bay Workshop On Homophobia And Fear of AIDS

When the media refer to hemophiliacs, infants, and people who have contracted AIDS from blood transfusions as "innocent victims," does that imply that Gay/Bisexual men are "guilty victims," deserving what they get?

When an AIDS patient is left on a gurney outside his apartment or driven 300 miles with only enough oxygen to last 200 miles, does that imply that homosexuals with AIDS are to be disposed of in any way possible?

When the AIDS epidemic is used to justify not granting Lesbians and Gay men their civil rights, does that imply that society will translate any epidemic as evidence of "God's wrath" — or just this epidemic?

AIDS Phobia — the link between homophobia and society's reaction to the AIDS epidemic — will be explored in a three-hour workshop conducted by Ricky Sherover Marcuse, well-known for her "Unlearning" workshops on racism, sexism, anti-Semitism, and homophobia.

"We are particularly interested in having health-care professionals attend this workshop," said John Dupree, education coordinator.

The workshop begins at 6 p.m. on Wednesday, Oct. 3, at the West Berkeley branch of the Berkeley Public Library, 1125 University Ave. If you are interested in attending the free workshop, please register with the Lesbian and Gay Switchboard, 841-6224.

New AIDS Research Fund Started at San Francisco General

A new public research fund has been established at San Francisco General Hospital (SFGH) to support research, patient care and education on AIDS.

The fund, which will be built with contributions from the public, will be administered by the office of David Werdegard, MD, associate dean for the UC-San Francisco School of Medicine at SFGH.

An annual report shall document that monies were used directly for the purposes of the fund and that not more than ten percent of these monies then available were applied to administrative purposes.

The new fund was started with a contribution from Loy Elser, a director of Atlas Savings & Loan Association of San Francisco, who said, "I want friends and families of AIDS patients to be able to make memorial contributions that will benefit other patients suffering from the same disease."

Elser estimates that commitment to the new fund, including his own contribution and pledges from the Gay community, have already reached between \$25,000 to \$30,000.

SFGH is one of the foremost centers for AIDS research and treatment in the country. In July

of 1982, it opened the first special inpatient unit for treating seriously ill AIDS patients. Plans already are underway to expand the 12-bed unit to a 24-bed ward.

The outpatient clinic also is active, currently recording a record-breaking 1,000 patient-visits a month.

The AIDS Clinic, in cooperation with researchers from the UCSF campus, also is involved in clinical studies and research aimed both at relieving symptoms and prolonging the lives of AIDS patients and at shedding new light on the virus that appears to cause the disease.

Projects supported by the new fund will be supervised by a steering committee composed of Elser, representing the Gay community; David Werdegard, MD, UCSF associate dean; Paul Volberding, MD, UCSF associate professor of medicine and chief of oncology at SFGH and Eugene Gottfried, MD, UCSF clinical professor of laboratory medicine and director of Clinical Laboratories at SFGH.

Donations to the fund should be sent to the AIDS Research Fund for SFGH, c/o UCSF Foundation, 532 Parnassus Avenue, San Francisco, CA 94143. Donations are tax deductible.

The San Francisco AIDS Foundation

presents

AIDS UPDATE 84 A Series of Free Community Forums

SEX IN THE AGE OF AIDS, PART I - The Latest Medical Word on Safe / Unsafe Sex.

What's "safe" and "unsafe" and why? What do you mean by "possibly" safe? What about saliva and pre-seminal fluid? Do condoms really work? How can we avoid the spread of AIDS and still have sex?

Participating: Bay Area Physicians for Human Rights (BAPHR)
San Francisco AIDS Foundation
When: Monday, September 24 (7:30 - 9:30 PM)
Where: Metropolitan Community Church (MCC)
150 Eureka (near 18th)

SEX IN THE AGE OF AIDS, PART II - Eroticizing Safe Sex.

Can we learn to fully enjoy "safe sex" just as much (or more) than unsafe sex? Can condoms be a turn-on? Can sex in the age of AIDS be even more fulfilling, satisfying and exciting than it has been in the past?

Participating: The Institute for Advanced Study of Human Sexuality
When: Monday, October 1 (7:00 - 10:00 PM)
Where: 1523 Franklin Street (between Bush/Pine)

COMING SOON - Forums on

HTLV-III Testing • Alcohol, Drugs... and AIDS • Staying Well in this Age of AIDS • AIDS-Prevention Leadership Forum • What's Happening to Sex in Our Community • and More

FOR INFORMATION CALL 863-AIDS

Another Message from the San Francisco AIDS Foundation.

BAY AREA REPORTER GREATER BAY NEWS

Auctions Top \$20 Grand for East Bay AIDS Services

Final 9-Hour Marathon Puts Total \$1,800 Over the 'Unobtainable' Goal

by Nez Pas

Culminating a sequence of auctions which began March 25 at the Bench & Bar and continued monthly at the Spoiled Brat, Town & Country, Turf Club, Lake Lounge, and Big Mama's, Ed Paulson and Little Mother had their grand finale — at Revol on Sunday, Sept. 9.

Their "thought to be unobtainable by many" goal of \$20,000 was not only reached, but topped by \$1,859.

The nine-hour marathon of bidding was aborted only three times — twice for entertainment breaks and once for the buffet repast. Every other single moment of the afternoon and evening had either the host or "guest" auctioneers doing what is done best at an auction — selling.

And speaking of selling, nothing is sacred at this type of auction. Two people were discussing the totals on the goal thermometer and it was mentioned that the amount was just a "hair" away. Terrific Paulene from Finocchio's said that if that's all that was needed, she would donate the hair. She said it in jest, but within a few minutes, complete with tartar sauce and lemon wedge, the hair was indeed sold for \$25.

And, when one of the turkeys was being carved for the buffet, inside was discovered the complete giblet bag that someone had forgotten to remove before roasting. That, too, was auctioned — for \$5.

"Oh, my God!" was all that Little Mother could say when the promised appearance of Nez Pas, in previously purchased female attire, along with sister hussy Mr. Lumberjack, adorned in newly-assembled female attire, finally made their presence obvious. Every stitch of clothing, and even the "wigs," was sold, resold, and resold again, adding around \$125 to the coffers.

Kudos and plaudits must go to entertainers Paulene and Terri Cowick — why did Little Mother keep calling her "cowlick"? — who both gave outstanding performances and added greatly to the festiveness of the entire event.

There are just too many people to thank for this series: all the bars and their personnel, all the donors of merchandise, all of the people who donated food for the buffet, all of the volunteer workers, all of the public who bought the merchandise.

Without a doubt, however, thanks must go to Ed Paulson

and Little Mother. Their efforts and energy made the total a reality, and they can justifiably feel proud. The East Bay AIDS Fund and the entire East Bay certainly do.

Only one traumatic moment occurred. When the final tally of monies was being proffered, Ed was told that there was a discrepancy. With heavy heart he asked how much he owed to make it right. "Nothing," was the answer, "you're \$6 over."

That's not too shabby for \$21,859. ■

AIDS Forum Set at West Berkeley Library

Because the numbers of AIDS diagnoses and deaths continue to grow in Alameda County, a forum on AIDS, the AIDS virus, research developments, and risk reduction has been scheduled for Thursday night, Sept. 27, at the West Berkeley branch of the Berkeley Public Library, 1125 University Ave.

Sponsored by the East Bay AIDS Project at Pacific Center, the forum will provide an update on developments involving isolation of the HTLV-3 and LAV viruses in the U.S. and France, respectively, new announcements about possible vaccine development, plus the potential implications of those discoveries for the AIDS epidemic.

"The incidence of AIDS in Alameda County has more than tripled in the past year," according to Jeremy Landau, East Bay AIDS Project coordinator. "This is an alarming trend that would not be immediately reversed even if a vaccine were available tomorrow."

"Because of the indefinite length of the AIDS incubation period, there are men and women unknowingly walking around today with the disease who may not know it for months or years. Still others are unnecessarily exposing themselves to the disease because they are not taking the proper precautions. That is why we need to continue educating people on risk reduction."

The two-hour forum will begin at 7:30 p.m. For further information, call the Lesbian and Gay Switchboard at 841-6224. ■



Candidates Address Gay Concerns. From left to right, Maudelle Shirek, James Sweeney, Don Jelinek, and Ann Chandler. All but Sweeney promised immediate implementation of city "domestic partners" plan.

Citizens Action Bloc Wins Gays' Support

East Bay Gay, Lesbian Demos Grill Candidates on Partner Benefits

Candidates from the Berkeley Citizens Action (BCA) slate took most of the endorsements for the Nov. 6 election by the East Bay Lesbian/Gay Democratic Club. For school board, incumbent Steve Lustig, a member of the club, and running-mate Joe Gross won endorsement for the two open positions.

Lustig, a member of the first governmental body in the nation to adopt full domestic partner benefits for all employees, announced that the teachers' union had just signed an agreement with the board pertaining to those benefits.

The most spirited discussions of the evening came during the question-and-answer period for city council candidates. At issue were four seats, all held by incumbents of the All Berkeley Coalition (ABC) slate, which represents the more conservative elements in Berkeley. The ABC slate holds a 5-4 majority on the city council, and voted in July to accept domestic partner benefits "in concept," but to delay possible implementation until a 21-month study is completed.

Even then, there was no guarantee as to what benefits would be provided. "This is a question of putting a price tag on human rights," said Leland Traiman of the Democratic club. Traiman asked the ABC incumbents if they would need 21 months to study the issue if it involved, for example, interracial couples, marriage between whom was illegal in many states until about 20 years ago.

The incumbents were visibly upset by this question, especially Vice Mayor Feller, who seemed annoyed at being confronted over her position.

By contrast, the Berkeley Citizens Action (BCA) slate and the Berkeley Independent (BI) slate candidates were much more supportive of immediate implementation of the full range of domestic partner benefits. A good measure of support was also noted from ABC nonincumbent slate member Ed Epstein.

Members voted to endorse three out of four BCA candidates: Ann Chandler, Don Jelinek, and Maudelle Shirek, for city council. Chandler had the strongest showing, capturing all but one of the club's votes. A second ballot was held between

the next highest vote-getters, Nancy Skinner of the BCA and Ed Epstein of the ABC, but neither was able to get the 60% needed for endorsement. No provision was made for successive ballots.

Preceding the endorsement meeting, David Cunningham, Chair of the Berkeley Human Relations and Welfare Commission, presented a plaque of appreciation to Club Pac Chair Tom Brougham for all that he had done to promote the issue of domestic partner benefits in Berkeley.

The next meeting of the Democratic club will be held to make endorsements for local and state ballot propositions. It will be Sunday, Oct. 14, at 7 p.m., at the West Branch of the Berkeley Public Library, 1125 University Ave. The meeting is free and wheelchair accessible. The public is invited to attend. Please call 849-3983 for further information. ■

Gay Youth Switchboard In 6th Year

This month marks the sixth year Gay Youth Community Switchboard has maintained operation to Northern Californians. This switchboard offers the first, and only, youth-for-youth community switchboard; thus challenging the needs and confronting the issues young Gays of today face.

Correspondence may be sent to Gay Youth Community Switchboard at Post Office Box 846, San Francisco, CA 94101, or call (415) 552-6025. ■

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OAKLAND

The Lady Billy Eyes the Crown

NEZ PAS

Nez: You're fairly new on the scene. Where did you come from and where have you been?

Billy: New on the scene? Oh my God, no. I've been around forever it seems. I was born here in Oakland, and raised in San Leandro. I used to hang around "the" parking lot in Hayward when I was under age. I've been involved with every ACIE Court since it started, in some way or another. My entire family knows that I am Gay and that my sister is Lesbian. I was a lover with the man who brought me out. That lasted seven years. No way darling. Having lived in this area for the past 31 years, I don't consider myself "new on the scene."

Billy Sousa is a beautician in San Leandro, and has been doing that job for the past 10 years. Before that he was in horse training and the rodeo circuit, where indeed he did meet his first lover. And he admits that there are a lot of Gays in the "horsey set."

Nez: When did you first consider running for Empress, and why on earth would you want to?

Billy: I actually decided about a year and a half ago. A group of us were helping during the campaigns and having a good time so I thought why not do the same thing with a title? Why I want to run is because, first of all I think it is fun! I enjoy being in drag. To me, it's a costume. Also I feel that I can do some good by raising money for the East Bay AIDS Fund, AIDS research, Children's Hospital, and individuals who are in a financial bind because of illness or accident or whatever. Just having the title would help greatly in achieving those goals. Besides, I'm single and have more time to devote to the job and its causes. I think that I have the ability to get people involved. My drag doesn't intimidate people. I have fun with it and so do they.

Nez: What is your overall view of ACIE?

Billy: I think it is good, but it can stand improvement. The ideas are there but more energy needs to be put into it. ACIE's major weakness is that there is just too much bickering. All of the energy should be programmed into constructive things not negative things. Everyone involved is guilty and I really can't tell you why. ACIE's major strength is that when push comes to shove, we

all get together and get the job done.

Nez: What is one major change you would like to see occur in ACIE?

Billy: I would like to see a recruitment drive to involve more of this community. I would like the "outsiders" to know that it can be a lot of fun, and putting that fun and energy into showing that monies raised go where the monies are supposed to go. If possible, I'd get a list of all who weren't involved and invite them to be a part of it. But, if one is dead set against ACIE, there isn't too much anyone can do to get them interested. Perhaps a little more social activity in our own community would help. Also, I personally can't see the separation between Oakland and Hayward, but I've heard about it. If it does exist, I want that changed.

Nez: If you are elected, to whom would you represent the community? Where? Why?

Billy: Well, number one, I'd represent the community to ourselves. As to where, wherever we needed representing, especially here at home rather than so much out of town. I'd even represent the community in the political sense if needed, to the police, Council, even the County Superintendents. And, why? Because I could do a very good job with it. No one would be ashamed of me, that's for sure. I wouldn't wear a dress to those kinds of meetings!

Nez: Have there been any changes in the community since ACIE started?

Billy: In all honesty, there isn't any noticeable change. People are still the same, either friendly or bitchy. But it can be better if we channel our energies in the right way. This community should give the ACIE the benefit of the doubt. After all, even the government gives a new business five years' experience before it is supposed to make a profit!

Nez: Have you learned from other Empresses?

Billy: Of course. Most of all I learned that if I stay happy and am always pleasant, I can get more out of people. Also, I learned that a thick skin is a necessity. No matter what is said, I must keep on smiling. After all, one can get more out of a bear with honey than vinegar.

Nez: Any final comments?



The Lady Billy . . . Billy Sousa, discusses his hopes for ACIE Empress.

Billy: First of all, I'd like to express my respect for Ed Paulson. He has done more, not only for the Gay but also the Straight communities, than anyone I can think of. Second, I'd like to say that I feel Doug Odermat will make a very good Emperor VI. He has worked hard over the years, is honest and reliable, and will do one hell of a job. Third, I'd like to see everyone stop being so afraid of AIDS. Drop the fear and work toward a cure. Fourth, I'd like to see the Gay Community stop being so youth oriented. Hell, at 31 I'm con-

sidered over the hill! Last, to everyone in the Gay community, all I can say is that I will do my best, and if you really want me, get out the vote, even if you can't attend the Coronation. I want to thank all who have helped and supported me. Love you all, Billy.

Don't forget the Hub's "That's Entertainment II" this Sunday. Hope to see you there.

A bird in the hand is safer than one overhead. I won't look up and smile! Love, Nez



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Rights Law Author Matt Coles Honored at Oakland Fundraiser


The Campaign for Equality, the political action fund of the East Bay Lesbian/Gay Democratic Club, will be holding a fall fundraiser to honor attorney Matt Coles.

Coles, a Berkeley resident, has handled litigation and drafted some of the most significant legislation in California for Lesbians and Gay men, including civil rights ordinances in Oakland, Berkeley, and San Francisco. He helped write AB-1, the state fair employment bill, and domestic partner policies in San Francisco and Berkeley.


The wine and cheese recep-

tion will be held Friday, Sept. 21, from 6 to 8 p.m., at 5868 Ocean View, near the Rockridge BART station, in Oakland. A sliding scale donation of \$10 to \$25 is requested. Honorary hosts of the event include the Mayor of Berkeley and city council members from both Berkeley and Oakland.

All proceeds from the event will go to the Campaign for Equality, which was organized last spring to contribute money to the campaigns of local and state candidates who support Lesbian and Gay rights. For more information, call 548-0329.



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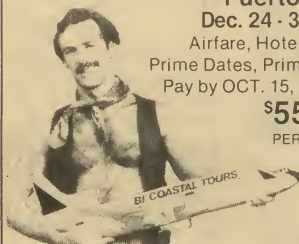
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FRIDAY 21

• **The Captive:** stage performance, The Studio, 2926 16th St., S.F., 8:30 PM, \$7. The play's first presentation since it was closed by New York police in 1926.

• **Tales of Danger, Fragility, and Love:** stage performance, Theatre Rhinoceros, 2940 16th St., S.F., 10:30 PM, \$7. Tom Keegan and Davidson Lloyd in a dance/theater event about food, relationships, spray paint, and everything else pertaining to survival.

• **Beyond Happiness:** stage performance, Valencia Rose, 766 Valencia St., S.F., 8 PM, \$5. A one-man, multiple-character play written and performed by Peter McGee.

• **Comedy Harvest:** comedy, Artemis Cafe, 1199 Valencia St., S.F., 8 PM, \$4. With Harriet Schiffer of Lilith Theatre and Marga Gomez.

• **Monica Palacios and Marga Gomez:** comedy, Clementina's Baybrick Inn, 1190 Folsom St., S.F., 7 to 9 PM, cover.

• **Best of San Francisco:** Gay Video Festival, The Sixteenth Note, 3160 16th St., S.F., 8 PM, cover. Works by independent Gay video producers and directors collected from around the country spanning three years (1982-84).

• **Tooting Our Horn:** fundraiser, 260 Amber Dr., S.F., 5:30 to 8:30 PM, \$15 to \$50. To support the candidacies of Supervisor Harry Britt and College Board member Tim Wolfred.

• **Campaign Countdown Party:** fundraiser, 4240 21st St., S.F., 5:30 to 8 PM, \$10 to \$25. To support the candidacy for supervisor of Pat Norman.

• **East Bay Lesbian/Gay Democratic Club:** cocktail party, 5868 Ocean View Dr., Oakland, 6 to 8 PM, cover. Matt Coles, author of the Oakland, Berkeley, and San Francisco Lesbian and Gay rights ordinances, will be the guest of honor. All proceeds go to support endorsed candidates in the November election.

• **Building Self-Esteem:** psychology lecture/workshop, 2038 22nd Ave., S.F., 8 PM, Ira Rudolph, co-director of the Gay Men's Therapy Center, and Dave Cooperberg will conduct. Call 753-6786 for more information.

• **Steel Town:** stage performance, Julia Morgan Theatre, 2640 College Ave., Berkeley, 8 PM, \$8. The San Francisco Mime Troupe brings its show to the East Bay.

• **Singing My Mother to Sleep:** stage performance, Intersection for the Arts, 756 Union St., S.F., 8 PM. Motion presents a view of a woman's search for freedom and struggle for survival.

• **Riot Squad:** comedy/improvisation, Valencia Rose, 766 Valencia St., S.F., 10:30 PM, \$5.

• **The Dream Keeper Speaks: The World of Langston Hughes:** stage performance, Lorraine Hansberry Theatre, 1668 Bush St., S.F., 8 PM, \$7. A one-man show about America's best known Black poet.

• **Charles Busch: Alone With a Cast of Thousands:** stage performance, Theatre Rhinoceros, 2926 16th St., S.F., 8:30 PM, \$8. Busch takes his act from the Rose to Rhino.

• **The Woods:** stage performance, One Act Theatre, 430 Mason St., S.F., 8 PM, \$8. The Open Door Theatre Company performs a play by David Mamet.

• **Future Junkyard:** stage performance, Zephyr Theatre, 595 Mission St., S.F., 8:30 PM, \$7. Dream Theatre presents a new production.

• **Cinderella II:** stage performance, Theater Artaud, 450 Florida St., S.F., 8 PM, \$10. Written by Daniel Curzon and Dan Turner, performed by the Angels of Light.

• **Kerrigan Black:** music, Cathedral Hill Hotel, Van Ness and Geary, S.F., 8:30 PM, cover. Black will also appear at the Sansome Street Brasserie, 411 Sansome St., S.F., at 5:30 PM.

• **Jazz:** dance class, Pride Center Auditorium, 890 Hayes St. at Fillmore, S.F., 6 to 7:30 PM, free. Beginning jazz taught by Ron Petersen. Wear gym clothes or loose clothing.

• **Jacques Brel is Alive and Well and Living in Paris:** cabaret, 132 Bush, 132 Bush St., S.F., 8:30 PM, \$10. Starring Ruth Hastings.

SATURDAY 22

• **Twenty-Two on the Red:** benefit, Giftcenter Pavilion, 888 Brannan St., S.F., 8 PM, \$25. The Golden Gate Business Association presents a benefit for the GGBA Foundation. A 1985 Chevy Sprint will be raffled off at midnight. Call 956-8677 for more information.

• **Benefit for Person With AIDS and His Children:** featuring Armistead Maupin, Susan Griffin, Lyle Dobson, Kim Chernin, and Dennis Altman, who will read from their works, and Gwen Avery, who will sing, First Unitarian Church, 1187 Franklin St., S.F., 7:30 PM, \$10. All proceeds will go towards the medical and living expenses of Lyle Dobson and the needs of his children.

• **Fall Music Celebration:** featuring Mary Watkins,

THIS



Try your luck at 22 on the Red Saturday at the Giftcenter Pavilion, Foundation. (Photo: M. Small)

Heart N' Sole, MoJo, and Mimi Fox, Florence Schwimley Theatre, Berkeley, 8 PM, cover. All proceeds will benefit the Pacific Center for Human Growth. Call 841-6224 for more information.

• **The Captive:** stage performance (see Friday listing for details).

• **Tales of Danger, Fragility, and Love:** stage performance (see Friday listing for details).

• **Beyond Happiness:** stage performance (see Friday listing for details).

• **Gay Comedy Night:** comedy, Valencia Rose, 766 Valencia St., S.F., 10 PM, \$5. Featuring Marga Gomez, Laurie Bushman, Romanovsky and Phillips, and Ellen Davis.

• **In a Nutshell:** comedy, Mame's, 389 Bay St. at Mason, S.F., 8:30 and 10 PM, \$4. Comical Musedy with Bernuda Schwartz and Matthew Perry.

• **Patience:** stage performance, Presentation Theatre, 2350 Turk St., S.F., 8:30 PM, \$10 and \$12. The Lamplighters in their 222nd production of Gilbert and Sullivan.

• **Steel Town:** stage performance (see Friday listing for details).

• **Singing My Mother to Sleep:** stage performance (see Friday listing for details).

• **The Dream Keeper Speaks: The World of Langston Hughes:** stage performance (see Friday listing for details).

• **Charles Busch: Alone With a Cast of Thousands:** stage performance (see Friday listing for details).

• **Future Junkyard:** stage performance, 8:30 and 11 PM (see Friday listing for details).

• **The Woods:** stage performance (see Friday listing for details).

• **Cinderella II:** stage performance, \$8 (see Friday listing for details).

• **Jacques Brel is Alive and Well and Living in Paris:** cabaret (see Friday listing for details).

SUNDAY 23

• **Megahood '84:** First Annual Folsom Street Fair, 7th through 11th Sts. on Folsom, noon to dusk. All proceeds will be divided among the Shanti Project, the South of Market Health Center, The North and South of Market Adult Day Health Corp., and the South of Market Alliance.

• **Steven Grossman and Mimi Fox:** music, Valencia Rose, 766 Valencia St., S.F., 8 PM, \$6.

• **Gays and the Left:** an evening with Dennis Altman, Walt Whitman Bookshop, 2319 Market St., S.F., 8 PM, \$2.

• **The Captive:** stage performance, \$6 (see Friday listing for details).

• **Tales of Danger, Fragility, and Love:** stage performance, 3 PM, \$6 (see Friday listing for details).

• **Dalila Jasmin:** belly dancing especially for women, Valencia Rose, 766 Valencia St., S.F., 3 PM, \$5.

• **The Gay Life:** radio, KSAN (95 FM), 6 AM. The conclusion of the Aug. 17 memorial service for Bobbi Campbell.

• **VD Clinic:** by and for gay men, Gay Men's Health Collective, 2339 Durant Ave., Berkeley, 7 to 9 PM, free and confidential. Call 644-0425 for more information.

WEEK



avilion. It's a benefit for the Golden Gate Business Association

- **San Francisco Hiking Club:** day hike to Las Trampas Regional Park, meet at the McDonald's on the corner of Stanyan and Haight Sts. at 9:45 AM. Drivers needed. Call 621-3413 for more information (rescheduled from 9/16).

- **San Francisco FrontRunners:** run at Twin Peaks, one to five hilly miles, begins at 10 AM at the Twin Peaks parking lot.

- **Eastbay FrontRunners Club:** run at Redwood Park, three + -mile run with brunch to follow, run begins at 9:30 AM. Call 626-7315 or 527-9167 for more information.

- **Bettina Barboza:** music, Buckley's, 131 Gough St., S.F., 9 PM, cover.

- **Grupo Sinigual:** music, El Rio, 3158 Mission St., S.F., 4 to 8 PM, cover.

- **Steel Town:** stage performance, 2 and 8 PM, \$7 and \$8 (see Friday listing for details).

- **High Mass:** The Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence do their thing at the Oasis, 11th and Folsom, S.F., noon to 2 AM. Entertainment includes dancing on the water to music by Gays for Better Disco, and live music by The Responsibles. The Hayward Raw Raahs will also be on hand for one performance only.

- **The Dream Keeper Speaks: The World of Langston Hughes:** stage performance (see Friday listing for details).

- **Charles Busch:** stage performance, \$7 (see Friday listing for details).

- **Future Junkyard:** stage performance (see Friday listing for details).

- **The Martha Young Trio:** music, Clementina's Baybrick Inn, 1190 Folsom St., S.F., 5 to 8 PM.

- **Cinderella II:** stage performance, \$7 (see Friday listing for details).

- **All Join Hands:** Gay square dancing, dancers from every club join hands at 2140 Market St., S.F., 5 to 7:30 PM, donation.

MONDAY 24

- **Bad Girl Rap Group:** Valencia Rose, 766 Valencia St., S.F., 7 to 9:30 PM, \$5. A place for women who have been stigmatized at any time in their lives for being bad to come together to discuss the impact of that stigma. Call 381-3881 for more information.

- **Gay Comedy Open Mike:** comedy, Valencia Rose, 766 Valencia St., S.F., 8:30 PM, \$2. Linda Moakes will co-emcee. Performer sign-up at 7:30 PM.

- **Tuffy Eldridge and Krista Hillhouse:** music, Clementina's Baybrick Inn, 1190 Folsom St., S.F., 7 to 9 PM.

- **Lady Bianca:** music, Clementina's Baybrick Inn, 1190 Folsom St., S.F., 9 to 11 PM.

TUESDAY 25

- **Harvey Milk Lesbian and Gay Democratic Club:** meeting, The Women's Building, 3543 18th St., S.F., 7:30 PM. Endorsements for six S.F. supervisor slots, seats on the Board of Education and the Community College Board will be made. A sneak preview of the

film *Before Stonewall* will be shown.

- **Homophobia: Roots and Branches:** lecture, Dolores Street Baptist Coffeehouse, 208 Dolores St., S.F., 7:30 PM. The November election effort will be discussed.

- **Radical Women:** meeting, 523-A Valencia St., S.F., 7:30 PM. Call 864-1278 for more information.

- **Reaching Out:** playreading, Fort Mason, Bldg. C, Room 300, S.F., 7:30 PM, \$2. Written by Mary Ryzuk.

- **Glamor Rock with Dexter Devoe:** music, Raggs, 22 4th St., S.F., 9:30 PM, \$6.

- **The Dote Sisters:** music, Mame's, 389 Bay St. at Mason, S.F., 8:30 and 10 PM, \$4. Three-part a cappella harmony, comedy.

- **Steel Town:** stage performance, \$7 (see Friday listing for details).

- **Lisa Pawlak:** music, Clementina's Baybrick Inn, 1190 Folsom St., S.F., 7 to 9 PM.

- **For Women Only:** live erotic dancing, Clementina's Baybrick Inn, 1190 Folsom St., S.F., 9 PM, cover.

- **International Folk Dancing:** dance class, Nova Academy, 347 Dolores St., S.F., 7 to 9 PM, \$2. No pre-registration necessary. Call 552-8413 for more information.

WEDNESDAY 26

- **S.F. Women's Building Fundraiser:** dance, Clementina's Baybrick Inn, 1190 Folsom St., S.F., 9 PM, cover. Featuring Franx and Subject to Change.

- **Beyond Happiness:** stage performance (see Friday listing for details).

- **Red Light/Green Light:** playreading, Studio Rhino, 2926 16th St., S.F., 7:30 PM, \$3. Written by Deborah Rogin, directed by Raymond Tasco.

- **Lesbians of Color/Third World Lesbians Drop-in Rap Group:** open rap, Pacific Center, Berkeley, 8 to 9:45 PM, \$2. Topic(s) for discussion to be chosen by members present.

- **Rosh Hashanah:** high holy days celebration with Sha'ar Zahav, Congregation of the Golden Gate, Unitarian Center, main sanctuary, 1187 Franklin St., S.F., 7:30 PM, free.

- **Audrey Finer and Marga Gomez:** music/comedy, Mame's, 389 Bay St. at Mason, S.F., 8:30 PM, \$5.

- **Steel Town:** stage performance (see Friday listing for details).

- **Bonnie Hayes:** music, Clementina's Baybrick Inn, 1190 Folsom St., S.F., 7 to 9 PM.

- **The Bong Show:** comedy, Club 181, 181 Eddy St., S.F., 9:30 PM, \$2. Danny Williams will emcee, performer sign-up from 8:30 to 9 PM.

THURSDAY 27

- **Gay Comedy Night:** with Danny Williams, Marga Gomez and Monica Palacios, and Romanovsky and Phillips, The Brick House, 1028 Geary Blvd., S.F., 9 PM, \$5.

- **Beyond Happiness:** stage performance (see Friday listing for details).

- **Rosh Hashanah:** high holy days celebration with Sha'ar Zahav (see Wednesday listing for details).

- **San Francisco Hiking Club:** meeting, 1833 Page St., S.F., 7:30 PM. October hikes will be planned.

- **The Captive:** stage performance, \$6 (see Friday listing for details).

- **Tales of Danger, Fragility, and Love:** stage performance, \$5 (see Friday listing for details).

- **Singing My Mother to Sleep:** stage performance, \$7 (see Friday listing for details).

- **Steel Town:** stage performance (see Friday listing for details).

- **Writing Workshop:** for seniors 60 and older, Operation Concern, 1853 Market St., S.F., 7:30 PM. Conducted by George Birimisa, sponsored by Gay and Lesbian Outreach to Elders.

- **The Dream Keeper Speaks: The World of Langston Hughes:** stage performance (see Friday listing for details).

- **Charles Busch: Alone With a Cast of Thousands:** stage performance, \$7 (see Friday listing for details).

- **Jacques Brel is Alive and Well and Living in Paris:** cabaret (see Friday listing for details).

- **Debbie Saunders:** music, Clementina's Baybrick Inn, 1190 Folsom St., S.F., 7 to 9 PM.

- **Cinderella II:** stage performance, \$7 (see Friday listing for details).

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BAY AREA REPORTER ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

STAGE

Tyranny of Warped Infatuation

Studio Rhino Releases *The Captive*

by John F. Karr

If history repeats itself, you may *not* want to be part of the audience when Studio Rhinoceros presents a revival of *The Captive* by Edouard Bourdet. When presented on Broadway in 1926, the play was deemed obscene and immoral by Mayor James J. Walker and the New York City police. The paddy wagon backed up to the stage door, the actors took their bows and walked offstage into night court.

The raid was handled with delicacy, to be sure, considering the play was a translation from the French, and the cast featured genteel stars Helen Menken and Basil Rathbone. "Police Politely Serve the Warrants After the Final Curtain," ran the headline, followed by, "Victims Not Unwilling, Submit Cordially to Arrests."

Times have changed, and cordial or not, there probably won't be any arrests after the Rhino performances. Our mayor has enough on her hands without arresting a bunch of actors from Rhino's basement.

★ ★ ★

The *Captive* tells the story of

slanted terms Brooks Atkinson used in reviewing the play: "... the tragedy of... a twisted relationship... this loathsome possibility hangs like a black pall, a prescience of impending doom." Even better is Atkinson's explanation of Irene's marriage to Jacques, "to save herself and to release herself from the tyranny of her warped infatuation."

"But Irene cannot escape for long," Atkinson concludes. "She succumbs... completing this somber story." As Atkinson relates it, *The Captive*, indeed, has "a revolting theme."

Brushing off the cobwebs, we can see two factors to explain the furor over *The Captive*, which has an actual content as harmless as marmalade. The



Helen Menken in the 1926 version of *The Captive*.

'The play isn't camp at all... it's a fifty-year-old exercise in human relations...'

— Gabriel Breitzke

Irene, a young woman who comes to accept her Lesbianism during the course of the play. The story is told with utmost discretion, the word *Lesbian* never uttered, Irene's lover never shown. It still produced horror in 1926. Notice the

same Brooks Atkinson, whose righteous review of 1926 furthered Mayor Walker's censorship campaign, wrote a 1935 essay explaining Walker's efforts as "a penitent gesture" for Tammany Hall corruption. In his book, *The American*

Theatre, Ethan Mordden suggests the play would have escaped persecution if the woman had turned out to be straight after all. Walker needed camouflage, and found it in a play which would not stoop to convention. For the door to Irene's marriage does close at the final curtain, recalling *A Doll's House*, as Irene departs for the self-realization of her lover's home.

Why is this play, as old as marmalade, bereft of shock value, no longer concerning a tyrannical infatuation, being revived now? "It's a good little drawing room drama," said director Gabriel Breitzke. Usually an actor or administrator, Breitzke took leave from his position in Rhino's box office to direct *The Captive*. The project will realize a Master's Degree for the director, as well as further the political needs he felt as long ago as 1971, when he founded a Gay People's Alliance at his

undergraduate college.

"My work at Theatre Rhino is the way I can contribute to a Gay movement," he said. "The *Captive* is Gay history. If we understand what's behind us, we can get a better perspective of what our struggle is today."

"The play isn't camp at all. It's a melodrama. It's a fifty-year-old exercise in human relations, about personal choice. It details a woman's choice, its consequences, and the gaining of personal integrity."

Breitzke named a tight structure and stylized stage dialogue as challenges of *The Captive*. His actors, swathed in handsomely *haute* costumes of 1920s Paris by designer Mark Jones (who won a costume award for *The Enclave*), worked on a tone and style of acting to match their clothes: High.

But whether written in contemporary terms or the period chant of *The Captive*, the revelation of one's true character needs no dressing up as an excuse for depiction. The notice of our changing values, a reflection of our lives, is value enough as is the didacticism to be found in the inadvertent humor in some of *The Captive's* lines.

One section is as hair-raising as the plea of Marie Duplessis — the Lady of the Camellias — begging Franz Liszt to take her to Italy: "I will be no trouble to you. I sleep all day, go to the theater in the evening, and at night you may do what you will with me." In *The Captive*, Irene marries to be saved, promising wretchedly, "I'll give you everything a man can expect from a woman." A pity she doesn't list those offerings.

Then there's the portentous warning from a friend of Irene's husband. "It's not only a man who can be dangerous to a woman. In some cases, it can be another woman."

A woman? Quick! Call the paddy wagon!

The Captive opens at Studio Rhino Sept. 21. Information and reservations: 861-5079.

FILM

Harry Dean's List

Harry Dean Stanton Talks About Drugs, Closets, and His Movies

by Steve Warren

Several books have been written about the great supporting players of the '30s and '40s, those famous faces every moviegoer knew — but not by name. In an age when Walter Matthau plays romantic leads, there aren't many character actors left.

Scratch one more from that dwindling list. At the age of 58, after appearing in more than 50 films, Harry Dean Stanton has top billing in not one but two films this year, *Repo Man* and *Paris, Texas*.

He hopes this will give him a new image.

"Something that's got dignity and credence," he says. "Not a 'character actor' or a 'supporting actor' or even a 'leading actor.' Labels are a prison."

In most of his films — "Somebody made up a list of them. I wish I'd brought it with me" — ranging from *The Miniskirt*

Mob to The Godfather, Part II, and The Black Marble to *Red Dawn*, Stanton's performances have been reliable, often more memorable than the vehicles themselves. Several, such as *Cisco Pike*, have concerned drugs, and many more have shown the apparent influence of drugs on the writing, acting, and other technical aspects of the film.

"I've been in some where there was some drugs around," the Kentucky-born Stanton admits. "But I don't think it's a good idea — unless maybe there's a party scene; or if you're playing a drunk, maybe a little grass can help. I'm not into cocaine myself. In fact, I'm allergic to it. It can make me sneeze for three weeks."

others...

"John Wayne was a fag!" he offers, quoting from *Repo Man*. "Do you think that line will offend Gay people?" he worries.

"I don't think so," I reassure him, "although I'm not sure we want him on our side."

"I'm not sure I want him on

'John Wayne was a fag! Do you think that line will offend Gay people?'

— Harry Dean Stanton

Unaccustomed to being interviewed by the Gay press, the hopelessly heterosexual actor struggles sincerely to relate.

"I've always had good rapport with the Gay community," he starts. "It's a lifestyle that's been around for many centuries. Of course, every group has some bad ones who spoil things for the

my side either," the actor agrees. He explains that the dialogue — "I installed two-way mirrors in (Wayne's) pad in Brentwood and he came to the door wearing a dress!" — was overheard by writer-director Alex Cox, who made a note of it and put it in the script. "So it may be true," Stanton laughs.

He laughs again when I suggest there might be a Gay angle in his World War II naval experiences — "You know how sailors are" — but instead of expanding on that he goes into a later period.

"I've been in some group sexual things," he said. "Growing up in Hollywood, I had enough brushes with it (homosexuality); but I never felt it was for me. Believe me, if I had had any inclination in that direction I would have gone with it."

By this time he's more relaxed and we have an off-the-record discussion about Hollywood closets, including the one occupied by a leading man whose screen career has been longer than Stanton's. Everyone in the Gay community and the entertainment industry knows about this man, whose very name exudes machismo; but "the people don't know," as Stanton points out. "If they did he'd have a hard time getting cast as husbands and fathers, and in romantic parts."

(Continued on page 29)

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STAGE

Dazzling Duo

by Bernard Spunberg

Virile, tender emotion controlled by clear-eyed intelligence flows through the work of Tom Keegan and Davidson Lloyd. Their four short, rich *Tales of Danger, Fragility and Love*, currently on stage at Theater Rhino, are spoken, danced, sung, and spray-painted. Keegan and Lloyd do whatever it takes to communicate. And communicate they do. Powerfully. Beautifully.

If Keegan and Lloyd are so hot, why aren't they famous? Well, in New York, they are. Partners in life and art since 1977, Keegan and Lloyd have won critical acclaim in *The Advocate* and the *New York Native* for their work with Men Together, a New York-based Gay dance company, as well as for their appearances with other, independent artists. In March 1984, they premiered their current show — the first in which they are the sole featured artists — and revived it in July. With the support and encouragement of their manager, they now present their work on the West Coast for the first time.

"I'll Love You Forever," the first piece on the program, compresses essential elements of every loving human relationship into a series of instantly recognizable visual and verbal metaphors. There is a narrative: Man meets man, falls in love, breaks up, and falls in love again. Simple. The metaphors Keegan and Lloyd choose to dramatize the various narrative developments, however, plunge effortlessly — and hilariously — to the heart of human experience. When man meets man, they meet as dogs. They sniff each other all over. As humans, they get a little more sophisticated. They check for dental plaque, brush off dandruff, and pick coagulated mucus out of each others eyes.

Among other scenes too rich and numerous to describe, is a dance conveying the awkwardness of people who want to make love, but just can't find a common ground. Kisses land on all



Tom Keegan (l.) and Davidson Lloyd in *Tales of Danger, Fragility, and Love*.

"Child Life" brims with high energy and Naïve misconception. When Keegan demonstrates a future mommy and daddy setting off down the aisle for the alter, the bridal march he sings is the I Love Lucy theme. Well, Lucy and Ricky are the archetypal young marrieds, aren't they? Keegan illustrates human reproduction by dumping a bunch of cereal meant to symbolize a daddy's "seed" into a purse, which he snaps shut violently. He also explains boy rules and girl rules, the nature and purpose of education, and the dynamics of the world of grownups. Keegan's movements are adorable, but they also suggest the internalization of beliefs which will oppress him later on. At the end, Keegan touches on

allegory illustrating the potentially dehumanizing effect of society on the individual.

Though thematically complex, "Fragile Bodies" grips the imagination. We see Lloyd, as the mama pig, shove her three children into the world. Number one pig is eaten pretty fast, but number two gets all the way to the Royal Academy of Dramatic Arts. Too bad he flunks out and winds up in the army. Number three piggy gets swindled on the sidewalks of New York. At the end, the stage is covered with eggs symbolizing all the rest of us little piggies, each living an individual life. When a hurricane hits the beach of life, the Wolf — death and destruction — keeps an eye peeled for straggling sunbathers. If the pigs assist each other's efforts to escape the storm, evil is then thwarted and mourns. Davidson Lloyd explains it succinctly.

"Fragile Bodies" is a very simple piece, really. We try to dramatize how some people make it in life, some people get damaged, and some people don't make it. The point is, we have to take care of each other." Tom Keegan expands on their general purpose and goals.

"We want our work to have that bigger, universal element, the thing that connects everything to everything. We also know that sometimes you have to put a little style on top to hook people in. You have to give something to the contemporary consciousness. Like T.S. Eliot said, you have to give the watchdog a bone before he will let you pass."

Keegan and Lloyd give audiences one hell of a bone. I found their *Tales of Danger, Fragility and Love*, directed by James Farnsworth, so daring and exciting on opening night that I went back a second time just to make sure. Now I know I must return again. Keegan and Lloyd express fundamental emotions and ideas with passionate honesty and uncompromising artistry. They are dazzling.

Tales of Danger, Fragility and Love
Theater Rhinoceros
Through Sept. 30; 861-5079

'We want our work to have that bigger, universal element . . .'

— Tom Keegan

the wrong body parts, and much huffing and puffing results in limbs knotted no more erotically than the ends of a pretzel.

Failure to communicate escalates to a point at which the lovers' house collapses with a literal crash. The couple separates for a period during which they sift through their emotions. Finally, after exchanging letters, the men reunite and dance a love duet in which the clumsiness of their earlier attempt turns to erotic grace. At last Keegan and Lloyd know each other. Their lifts express perfect understanding and their limbs entwine with confidence and ease that symbolize the union of heart and mind as well as of body.

"I'll Love You Forever" ends with a gesture that expresses everything that lovers need to say to each other. It's really so simple and obvious. Only people of wisdom and courage, however, can attempt it. Keegan and Lloyd accomplish it with breathtaking, inspiring ease.

"Child Life" and "An Old Story," the two solo pieces on the program, are psychological portraits and reveal the contrast between Keegan's and Lloyd's temperaments. Tom Keegan's

childhood's bleak side when he announces his fear of the dark and empties the purse of "seed" over his head. It's a gesture open to interpretation, but Keegan's quiet anguish suggests an embryonic Gay consciousness just beginning to count the price he may have to pay for not wanting to put his own seed in ladies' purses.

Dark and convoluted, "An Old Story" focuses on an eleven-year-old's loss of his father. Davidson Lloyd interrelates his own story with that of a little prince kidnapped — or is he rescued? — by a wild man. Lloyd also confronts a suitcase jammed with the debris of his life. Report cards, cancelled checks, ticket stubs — even baby booties overflow the suitcase, but Lloyd can't bear to discard a thing. Elements of narrative are shuffled, retold, and acquire increasing emotional content as Lloyd pieces together a somberly expressive mosaic.

"Fragile Bodies," presented with the vividly nasty assistance of Tony Noll, is crowded with ideas and images. Keegan and Lloyd use the story of the Three Little Pigs and the Big Bad Wolf as the basis for an elaborate

TALES OF TESSI TURA

Questioning Artistic Standards

GEORGE HEYMONT

Critics, like junkies, go through periods when the highs are not as high as before, the lows seem to come more often, and the middle-level blahs continue to persist for uncomfortable periods of time. For much of this year I have been looking inward to ask myself whether, perhaps, I am beginning to suffer a certain level of critical burn-out or if, instead, I am merely seeing too many performances which are far less than laudable. I don't think the personal excitement I once received from attending exhilarating evenings in theaters, concert halls, and opera houses has disappeared simply because I've seen so much and become so jaded. Much of it has disappeared from the artistic product being offered.

Discussing the situation with friends and colleagues has reinforced my belief that we are experiencing a period of overcommercialization and artistic stagnation in the arts — a period in which mediocrity, too often, reigns supreme. The second week of the San Francisco season made it only too clear that our two leading arts organizations are headed in opposite directions. In Edo de Waart's final season as music director, the San Francisco Symphony seems to be riding astride a rocket. Alas, under Terry McEwen's directorship, the San Francisco Opera's artistic standards continue to suffer an alarming nosedive which is transforming that much-loved institution into a third-rate, provincial opera company.

PRODUCT VERSUS HYPE

Opening night hoo-hah aside, the San Francisco Symphony's performance of Mahler's Symphony No. 8 was one of those electric evenings which produces goosebumps, tears, cold sweats, and other sure indicators that the score is not merely being run through, but is being brilliantly performed. The combined efforts of the San Francisco Symphony, San Francisco Symphony Chorus, San Francisco Boys Chorus, San Francisco Girls Chorus, Masterworks Chorale, and eight soloists offered overwhelming evidence that this mammoth undertaking had been thoughtfully rehearsed, cleanly prepared, and was being delivered to the audience with a sense of thorough professionalism and genuine world-class musicianship. If one were to look for examples of when, since moving into Davies Hall, the San Francisco Symphony has been at its finest, this performance would certainly rank with the best. Kudos go to de Waart and the many deeply-committed artistic souls who helped produce this labor of love.

For those of us who have questioned the relentless hyping of the Symphony by its marketing department, this was an example of an arts organization actually delivering the product it had promised to the public. That sounds so simple, yet these days it is happening less and less. In order to sell tickets, the San Francisco Opera has been loading heavyweight names into its brochures, going after a hard sell, and then, too often, failing to deliver an artistic product which meets the audience's expectations. Never mind highly-publicized cancellations by major superstars. Although it would be easier to concentrate on the opening Ernani production to illustrate my point, I choose to use Bizet's *Carmen*, instead. Why? Because the per-

formance I attended was so slovenly mounted, so poorly sung, and so sloppily produced I left the opera house convinced I could have gotten greater artistic rewards merely by picking my nose on the platform of a MUNI Metro station.

IF THE SHOE FITS, WEAR IT

Someone recently asked me if there were any performances which genuinely made me mad, and this revival of *Carmen* certainly fits the bill. Ponnelle's production of Bizet's opera (which travels to Chicago in November) was built by the San Francisco Opera and received its North American premiere here in the Fall of 1981. It was in fairly good shape when revived for the 1983 Summer Festival. This time around, however, the production was in a state of shambles, indicating that the original artistic standards had obviously been forgotten by Vera Lucia Calabria (Ponnelle's assistant who restaged the opera) and by Terry McEwen, who, at a salary of \$100,000 a year, has no excuse whatsoever for letting the curtain rise on such sloppy filth.

How sloppy? This was one of those mechanically delivered low-life performances in which artists appear to be wandering through a wide variety of operatic styles although they happen to be standing on the same stage. Artistic boredom reigned supreme, leaving one with the impression that people were merely singing to pick up their paychecks. Lenus Carlson's Escamillo may have hit three notes on pitch. Tenor Giuliano Cianella sang like a stuck pig. Mezzo-soprano Alicia Nafe — who revealed a healthy-sounding vocal instrument in the lead role — refused to look at any of her colleagues when singing, thus severely undermining the dramatic intensity of Ponnelle's original conception. Lighting cues were blown right and left — the third act must

who might not have previously considered appearing in a book that brings Gay men and Lesbians together are encouraged to make submissions.

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"This is the world-renowned San Francisco Opera?" asks Carmen (Alicia Nafe).

have taken place under rapidly moving clouds — and Garcia Navarro's conducting was, at best, adequate.

I find this most alarming for several reasons. Usually, the first three productions of any season have had the most rehearsal time and have been produced when backstage energy is at its peak. If the season starts on such an abysmally low level that there is nowhere to go but up, then the San Francisco Opera is in severe trouble.

Because this devastating lapse in artistic standards comes at a time when Terry McEwen has farmed out the company's PR responsibilities to an outside media firm which apparently knows a great deal about getting coverage — but knows nothing at all about opera — it would seem McEwen is content to treat his product like a used car salesman treats the autos on his lot. The alarming problem is that no amount of media hype can hide a lemon from the public. When audience response is minimal, there *has* to be a reason for it. In this case, I would define it as a growing lack of confidence in the artistic product offered by the San Francisco Opera. Richard Thomas can gush to TV viewers about this being "the greatest opera company in the world" or about Terry McEwen being "one of the most beloved people in San Francisco" until he turns blue in the face. But on a hot day, the stench of fresh horseshit is not easily ignored.

It is very rare that I will walk out on a performance. Although many critics do it all the time, I feel there is an obligation to see a performance through to its better or bitter end. On this occasion, however, I left the War Memorial Opera House after the third act of *Carmen* when my pain threshold could take no more. Many others in the audience had left before I did.

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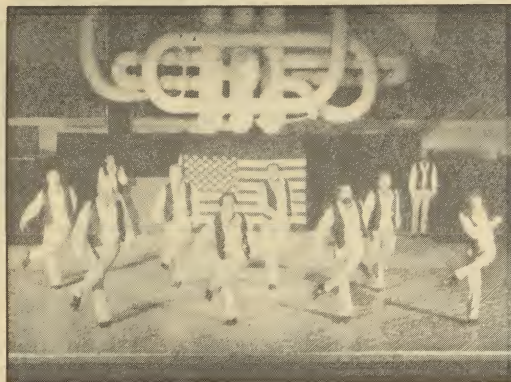
GayWHOgayWHATGayWHEREGayWHENGayWHYGay

Cloggers Come Home

The Barbary Coast Cloggers, San Francisco's hometown clogging group and America's first all-male precision clogging team, have just returned from a triumphant performance at the Louisiana World Exposition/New Orleans World Fair. An invitation to audition for the fair was received by the cloggers a year ago, whereupon a promotional videotape was sent to the World Fair committee in charge of entertainment. Less than three weeks after that, the official invitation to perform at the New Orleans World Fair was in the hands of the Barbary Coast Cloggers. To date, the cloggers are the only group to represent San Francisco at the fair. Their send-off party from the San Francisco International Airport Aug. 10 was highlighted by the reading of a proclamation from the City of San Francisco, the Office of the Mayor, The Honorable Dianne Feinstein, citing the Barbary Coast Cloggers as an outstanding example of San Francisco's rich diversity of creative talents.

way over the 82-acre fair and entered the building over the heads of the audience. The cloggers performed to the music of Alabama, Ricky Skaggs, and traditional Irish music, and ended with a rousing version of "Dixie" played by Cajun fiddler Doug Kershaw, which brought

Clogging is an Appalachian folk dance blending Irish, Scottish, English, African, and American Indian dances into movements that have become the first truly American form of dance. Clogging is the father to tap dance, the Charleston, Jitterbug, and other popular dance forms. The Barbary Coast Cloggers began performing in January 1981 at fairs, festivals, rodeos, and award shows and



The Barbary Coast Cloggers performing at the Louisiana World Exposition.

A series of events were scheduled to cover the cost of transporting and housing 12 dancers, which included auctions at the Starlight Room and Pilsner Inn, a beer bust at the Eagle, and a raffle at the Stagecoach western store. The performance took place Sunday, Aug. 12, on the Cornet stage located at the Louisiana Pavilion, the largest structure at the fair, which will become the New Orleans Convention Center. The unique feature of the three-sided thrust stage auditorium is the monorail, which wound its

the audience to its feet for a rousing ovation. The Barbary Coast Cloggers were later informed by the stage manager that the cloggers were the first group to receive a standing ovation in the Cornet auditorium.

Later that day, a second performance was presented at the Mississippi River Bottom Saloon in the heart of the New Orleans French Quarter. The popular St. Philip St. bar had its regular customers waiting on the street to see the cloggers' final show of the World Fair tour.

most recently for the Democratic National Convention. The group has performed with Merv Griffin, Donald O'Connor, Sharon McNight, and Tennessee Ernie Ford.

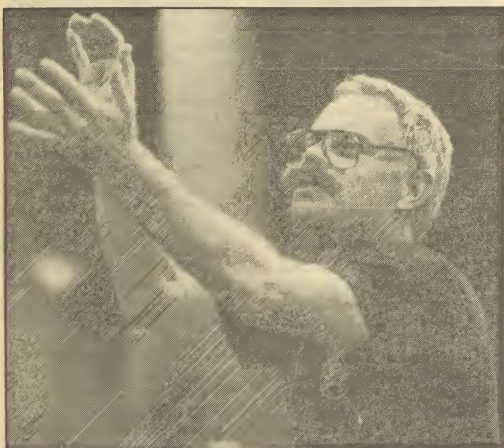
There will be a special showing of the video of the Barbary Coast Cloggers' World Fair performance at the S.F. Eagle, 398 12th St., Wednesday, Sept. 19, beginning at 9 p.m. The group will also perform a few of the numbers from its New Orleans show. The evening is in memory of Joe Zygielbaum, a Barbary Coast Clogger.

Gay Men's Chorale

The Dick Kramer Gay Men's Chorale will present Beau Soir, an evening of mostly French choral music, at 8 p.m. on September 28 at St. Francis Lutheran Church, 152 Church St., as a benefit for Hospice of San Francisco. For tickets and information on the benefit performance call 285-5622.

The chorus will perform the same program at Trinity Episcopal Church, 1666 Bush St., September 29 at 8 p.m. and September 30 at 4 p.m. Tickets for these performances are \$5 in advance and \$6 at the door. Call 863-0342 for more information.

The program includes "Requiem" by Durufle, "Beau Soir" and "Invocation" by Debussy, "Quatre Petites Prières de St. Francois" by Poulenc, "Psaume 121" by Milhaud, and other compositions. Wyatt In-



Dick Kramer

ske will accompany the chorus on the organ, and Gerald Blod-

gett will play piano accompaniment.

Pen Pals

More than 1,000 people have now participated in a letter exchange program set up to help Gay teenagers, according to Gay publisher Sasha Alyson, who sponsors the program.

The program, says Alyson, was started just over a year ago when his company published the book *One Teenager in Ten: Writings by gay and lesbian youth*.

If you're under 21 and would like to participate in the program, here is the procedure to follow:

- Get an address where you can comfortably receive mail. If you can use your home address, fine. Otherwise, some possibilities are: ask at the Post Office

how much it costs to rent a box there, or whether you can have mail addressed to you at General Delivery in the town where you live, and pick it up at the Post Office; find a friend, perhaps an older Gay person, who will let you use their address.

- Write a letter introducing yourself, and be sure your address is in the letter. Put it in an envelope with a first class postage stamp but without an address. Do not seal the envelope. Then put that letter and envelope along with a cover letter into a larger envelope and mail it to: Alyson Publications (letter exchange), PO Box 2783, Boston, MA 02208.

In the cover letter, which will be kept confidential, you should give your name, address, age, and sex; state that you are under 21; give Alyson Publications permission to have mail sent to

you; and sign your name at the bottom.

- When they get your letter, Alyson will forward it on to someone else who has expressed interest in corresponding. They will also keep your name on file to later get someone else's letter eventually. Once you've established correspondence with someone, you should mail letters directly to them. You'll only go through Alyson to get that initial contact.

- Be patient. It may take a while to get a first response. If no one replies, it could be that someone has received your letter but is having problems at home, or for some other reason isn't able to write back. In that case, try again.

- There's no charge for this service, but it is limited to Gays and Lesbians under 21 years of age.

Portrait of an Artist

From Castro to Church Street, From New York to San Francisco, Ed Parente Must Make Art

by Nina Baird

In a city where interesting new sculpture seems rare, let me tell you about some that is well done. Headdresses encased in acrylic, each piece a tight, colorful composition built around a plaster mask to which paper fans, old bones, dried flowers, jewels, lace, insects and/or ropes are applied — these are Ed Parente's most recent works. In all of them, the central mask is identical — a young woman's face, Parente's sister, in fact — yet the personality of each headdress is distinct.

The works I've described are now on display at Church Street Faire, a gallery on Church at 24th Street in San Francisco, just opened last month. These 50 pieces are the product of the past five months. Parente is an artist who *must* make art, and he has been doing that in San Francisco since 1974.

Parente moved to San Francisco on the last day of a sellout exhibit of his plexiglass sculpture at New York City's Paul Bellardo Gallery. The Big Apple has been good to this artist.

In 1968 Parente bought a SoHo gallery, Cannabis, a pioneer in erotic art which often exhibited works that were not currently fashionable. So unfashionable were they that, as Parente recalls with amusement, the *Village Voice* at times refused to print his ads.

One year after moving here, Parente launched his San Francisco art career with the opening exhibit, Boxes, at Hot Flash of America's Market Street store. He held a second show there the following year, one of multimedia sculpture, California Babies. During the late '70s, he also began to produce art party shows — thematic exhibits for private extravaganzas.

Gay extravaganzas. Parente doesn't speak readily about these times, but when coaxed, jokes, "I'm a sexual legend — a great sexual athlete. Ten years ago, there were incredible Gay parties in this city. Now — well — maybe we're seeing the results of those times."

Parente doesn't press the point, but the subject of AIDS is clearly an emotional one for him. Two years ago, a friend of his died of AIDS. His was one of the first diagnosed AIDS deaths — "Michael" had AIDS for a year before doctors knew

what was wrong.

In response to his friend's death, Parente worked "harder than I've ever worked — than I may ever work again," to produce a show called Remembrances. For this show, Parente used his home as a gallery, combining his interior design and art talent to create a thematic art design for his house. The success of this show prompted a spin-off production, Garden of Delights. Parente has continued such private art shows until the Church Street Faire exhibit.

"Death teaches you about life, about how to live," Parente said. "A friend of mine — she's a saint — who's a Hospice worker and now works only with AIDS patients, told me recently that she thinks Gays have the opportunity to be spiritual leaders in the '80s. We're learning from death how precious life is."

Earlier works of his — some unenclosed headdresses and pillar-like sculptures, an array of pen and ink drawings and graphics on cards, and other assorted pieces, are also showing at Church Street Faire. Customarily, Parente "does" his entire home thematically for an exhibit/private party. The Church Street Faire display is currently the largest public collection of his art.

Parente also has two smaller shows now in San Francisco. A display of goldleaf drawings, Golden Images, can be found at The Bear, 440 Castro St. Nearby, at Atlas Savings and Loan, 4126 18th St., a combined exhibit of drawings and headdress sculptures is showing.



One of Ed Parente's headdresses. (Photo: J. Kane)

STAGE

Keeper of Dreams

by Bernard Spunberg

Poetry transcending oppression sings through the work of Langston Hughes. The Lorraine Hansberry Theater is currently presenting John S. Patterson in *The Dream Keeper Speaks*, an evening of Hughes' work. Directed by Ernest Parham, Patterson projects rhythm, music, and drama. Somehow, though, Langston Hughes the man remains a little in the background.

Dream Keeper is designed to travel to high schools and universities where students are,

presumably, prepared before seeing the show. Most theatergoers drawn to this production have probably made a study of Hughes. Theater reviewers, however, may not be so sophisticated.

I left the *Dream Keeper* feeling respect for Hughes' ability and willingness to spin gold from the straw of hideous oppression. Now I want to know more about what made him tick.

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Amadeus

Peter and the Wolfgang

Milos Forman makes flawed masterpieces. His latest film, *Amadeus*, has his signature all over it. Like his previous film, *Ragtime*, this one is about a half hour too long, cast precisely except for one crucial role, filled with sets and costumes that evoke the late 1700s, and wrapped up with a greatest hits of Mozart soundtrack.

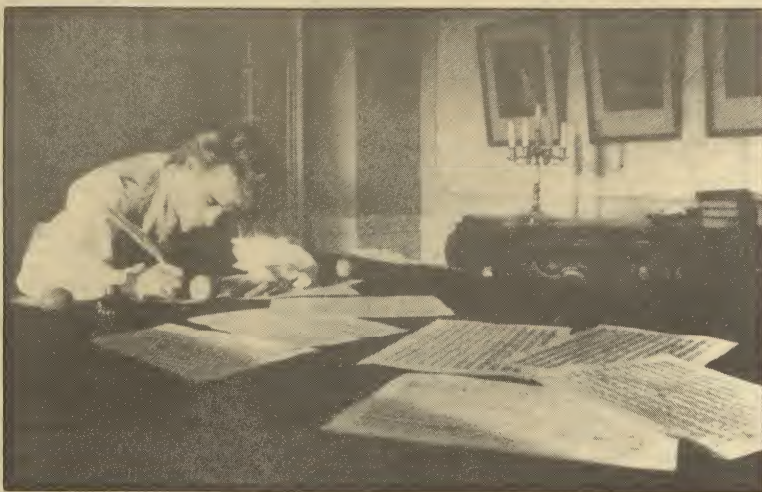
Forman is a storyteller and expert at organizing and clarifying unwieldy stories. Peter Schaffer's long-running Broadway play was excessively intellectual — a wit-for-wit's sake brittle word game. The film has

been broadly opened up to show that for all of Mozart's genius, he was a petulant, arrogant, coarse manboy.

In other words, Schaffer has humanized an untouchable classical icon for whom our only knowledge has been the product of his genius — music. Against this is placed an intriguing story, a sort of whodunit, or in this case an "I done it, really I did!"

The film opens with Antonio Salieri, the court composer to Emperor Joseph II (brother of Marie Antoinette), being taken to an insane asylum after a botched suicide attempt. He screams that he has murdered Mozart.

A priest comes to hear his confession at the madhouse. The



Tom Hulce as Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart

story unfolds, revealing Mozart's true character as well as Salieri's lack of character.

It's the gossip, "can we talk?" approach that keeps the film so completely engrossing. What then truly seduces us, not that our attention has been hooked, is the pure beauty, the classically lilting charm of Mozart's music.

It's Mozart's music that entangles the prodigy with Salieri (portrayed with icy brilliance by F. Murray Abraham) who vows to kill him merely for making his pedestrian music seem just that.

It wasn't that Salieri's music

was so bad, it was just that Mozart's was so incredibly perfect and more amazing from someone so young and immature.

Mozart was a woman chaser and got caught at his own game by a landlady who embarrassed him into marrying her daughter. Enter Constanze Mozart, his wife, and the only bit of excruciatingly bad casting. Elizabeth Berridge would seem more at home at a Brooklyn deli than an 18th Century Viennese palace. Her dems and does are painfully out of place here. Her acting is ungainly, especially

when surrounded with the precision of Tom Hulce (*Animal House*) as Mozart, Jeffrey Jones as Emperor Joseph II, and Roy Dotrice as Mozart's father, Leopold.

Peter Schaffer's script is literate without being preachy, and Forman's direction captures our minds and hearts by capturing the minds and hearts of the characters. *Amadeus* is a smashing entertainment, a culture maven's orgy, and the best advertisement for classical music we've ever had. Go see it. Go hear it.

(Coronet)

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Dick Kramer Gay Men's Chorale

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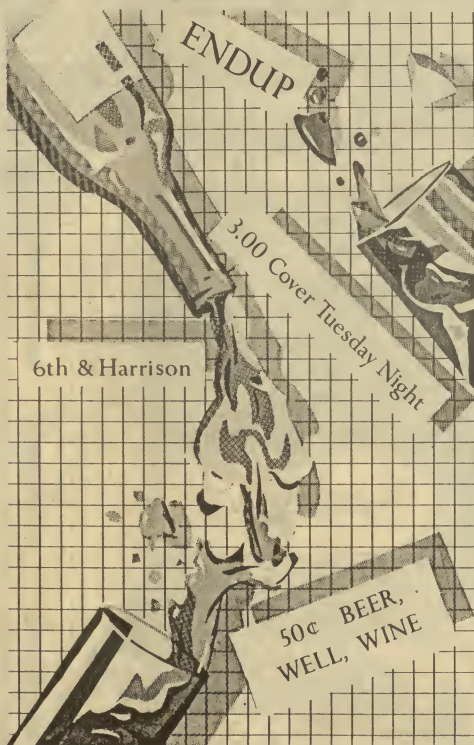
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All of Me

Steve Güds Lily

All of Me is the movie that asks the question, "How dare you say 'penis' to a dead person?"

More importantly it answers the question, "Will Lily Tomlin, Steve Martin and/or Carl Reiner ever make another good movie?" The answer is emphatically yes.

It's Martin's movie. With Reiner's superb directorial guidance, he performs the most brilliant physical comedy since Peter Sellers, the most sustained since Charlie Chaplin.

He plays a lawyer who would rather be a jazz musician. Deciding on his 38th birthday to take his job seriously and even buy a vest, he's sent to handle the deathbed affairs of Edwina Cutwater (Tomlin), who announces, "I'm going to come back from the dead... because I'm rich." Swami Richard Libertini has convinced her he can transfer her soul to the body of Victoria Tennant, her stableman's daughter.

Of course things go wrong and she ends up inhabiting Martin's body — just the right side — which gets him into some hilarious situations. He uses stereotypical swishing to indicate the feminine in control; but when he walks with only one side of his body swishing it's not only forgivable, it's hysterical and has to be seen to be believed.

Tomlin doesn't survive the first third of the movie. After that she's only seen when Martin looks in a mirror, and heard in voiceover when Martin's two sides think to each other.

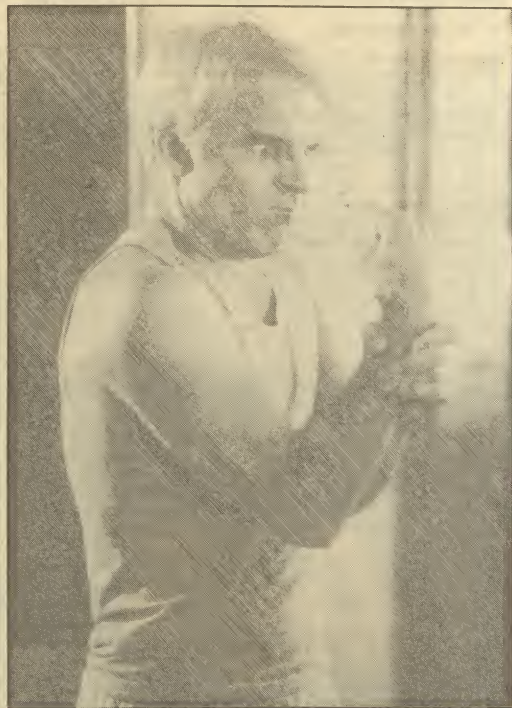
Considering the potential lack of sexual chemistry between the stars — he's a clown and we know what she is — this was the perfect way for them to fall in love and make us believe it. Actually, Martin is good enough to make us believe all this silliness — and that's saying a lot.

At the beginning, Martin is engaged to the boss' daughter, but she threatens to leave him if he defends her father in a divorce trial. Martin responds that her father will have his balls if he doesn't take the case, and she ultimatums, "It's either me or your balls."

What a wonderful metaphor for heterosexual marriage. Thank God I'm Gay.

(Regency II)

S. Warren



Lily Tomlin's finger points accusingly at Steve Martin in *All of Me*.

One Night Stands

Films of Gay Interest This Coming Week

by Michael Benzry

Thursday, Sept. 20: (Strand) Centurians of Rome. Slaves and soldiers, oh my. Lavish male porn epic, but a bit dull. With the anthology Good Hot Stuff.

(York) John Waters and Divine trash America. Pink Flamingos proves you can become famous by eating shit. Female Trouble proves you can become famous by becoming a super criminal after you don't get your cha-cha heels for Christmas.

Tuesday, Sept. 25: (Strand) Robert Altman's Streamers. New recruits suspended in time as they wait to be shipped to war and death, explore their sexuality and manhood with startling results. With anti-war classic Hair.

Wednesday-Thursday, Sept. 26-27: (Strand) The Deputy (Spain). Incredible film about a Gay socialist in the Spanish parliament who falls in love with an under-age hustler. A strong, "must see" film. You Are Not Alone (Denmark). Another great film with a Gay theme. Two young boys fall in love with each other at a boys school. See this film and see a sane society, Denmark.

Harry Dean Stanton

(Continued from page 22)

In 1971 Stanton played his one Gay role, a brief appearance as a hitchhiker in Monte Hellman's *Two-Lane Blacktop*. The film's running gag was that garrulous Warren Oates picked up a variety of people thumbing along the highway, finding some way to relate to each of them; but when Stanton put his hand on Oates' leg he was instantly dumped from the car.

The actor wasn't worried about being typecast by the role in those less liberal times.

"Because of my conditioning as a het-er-o-sex-u-al," he enunciates sardonically, "I took it as a challenge to explore all sides of my psyche. Living in a culture where you've got divided camps — if I may," he says, grabbing my arm and chuckling at his own joke, "I felt concerned about it." He would play another Gay role, he adds, "if it had a positive impact on the community at large."

Taking another tack he recalls, "I was very impressed by a 'Gay lib' party I went to in L.A. It was the first one I'd ever been to. I went with two straight friends of mine. I was impressed with the (other guests') sincerity and appreciation for my work."

Stanton has long been a cult actor. He would hate that label, but he practically defines the phenomenon when he says, "I'm not mobbed, but at least some people recognize me everywhere I go." He dropped his first name, becoming Dean Stanton, when he started in the movies in *The Proud Rebel* in 1958, partly to avoid confusion with the late James Dean, whose popularity had hardly been diminished by his death.

The story of how Stanton's full name was restored involves a graffiti campaign begun by a

friend of his who thought he needed publicity. HARRY DEAN STANTON spread worldwide — "just like KILROY WAS HERE" — until he had to change his professional name to capitalize on it. He goes into detail about where his name was scrawled, but requests with unexpected reserve, "Just say it was in public places."

Wim Wenders' *Paris, Texas* won the Palme d'Or at the Cannes Film Festival last spring, and is being shown at festivals in Mill Valley, Telluride (CO), and New York prior to its fall release in the U.S. The Mill Valley showing will be September 29, the closing night of the 10-day festival, but Stanton will also be the subject of a special tribute at 8 p.m. on September 26.

It was during another festival, in Santa Fe, that the idea arose for Stanton to play the lead opposite Nastassja Kinski. He says he was drinking with the screenwriter, Sam Shepard, and "I told Sam I wanted to do something with some intelligence and beauty and sensitivity."

Shepard saw the role of Tracy as perfect for Stanton, and sold Wenders on the idea. The actor grew hesitant: "I told Sam and Wim I'd only do it if they were totally committed to me for the part. If you get top billing it means you're carrying the load."

Stanton may be one of Hollywood's few heterosexual men who never had an affair with Elizabeth Ashley, although they made two films together in 1975. "She was having an affair with Tom McGuane then," he explains. McGuane wrote both *Rancho Deluxe* and *92 in the Shade*, and also directed the latter.



Harry Dean Stanton (l.) and Steve Warren in a mutual admiration society pose. (Photo: J. Diamond)

Those two films, and a third from a McGuane script, *The Missouri Breaks*, are listed among Stanton's favorite film-making experiences, along with *Zandy's Bride* — "I liked working with the Swedish director Jan Troell" — and *Cisco Pike*. He calls *Repo Man* "a hard shoot (because) I was having conflicts with Alex (Cox) — it was his first picture." When asked why he's doing publicity for it he begins honestly, "I do have some points in it . . ."

As for *Paris, Texas*, which could make the industry, as well as the public, see him in a different light, Stanton says, "It's the first picture I've ever felt totally good about."

Hoping to continue feeling good Stanton says, "True success is a tremendous responsibility. I hope from now on everything I do is responsible."

S. Warren

BOOK RACK

Good Range, Great Depth

The Christopher Street Reader

Edited by Michael Denny, Charles Ortleb, and Thomas Steele
Wideview/Perigee; \$7.95, paper

by Merv. Shaw

"Homosexuality and Gay are not the same thing; Gay is when you make an issue of it," says Editor Denny as his first proposition of "Gay Politics: Sixteen Propositions" in this collection of non-fiction from the first five years of the magazine. *Christopher Street* has indeed been "making an issue of it" in a great variety of ways. Actually, it might have been more appropriate for his essay to have opened the book, but possibly Denny used the show business "next to closing" slot as the best one to cap the bill. Certainly it is a powerful affirmation of the thoughtful and forthright explorations that permeate it.

Thirty-four writers are represented here, many now familiar who have become our spokesmen since *Stonewall*: Dennis Altman, Andrew Holleran, Seymour Kleinberg, John Preston, Guy Hocquenghem, Randy Shilts, and Edmund White are among them.

Five sections group the distribution effectively, from "Living the Life" through "Cultural Politics." Aaron Fricke relives his courageous teenage stand on taking a male date to the prom. Seymour Kleinberg relays both the present and the past of a handful of elderly Gay men. Martin Duberman reclaims a poignant case history of a turn

of the century American for whom the bungling early psychotherapists did nothing therapeutic. Randy Shilts recapitulates the life, political career, and death of Harvey Milk.

Much of this provocative material is in interviews: Dennis Altman with Gore Vidal; Jean Le Bitoux and Giles Barbedette with Jean Paul Sartre; Felice Picano with Vito Russo; and Denny with a male porno dancer. Consequently, there is the hard ring of the real voice throughout.

'Two omissions mar this otherwise admirable book. The editors are quite candid about the first, the absence of female writers.'

Quite frequently, individual pronouncements reach out of the page to roughly assault the reader's intellect. So John Preston writes, "Rather than deal with the hard core that is so willing to counterattack, women have all too often chosen to feed off the vulnerable residues of guilt and the sincere desire for sexual equality that exists in Gay men." ("Goodbye to Sally Gearhart"). Gore Vidal expos-

tulates, "All these fag-baiters [Podhoretz, Epstein, Kazin, et al] are Jews who have swung to the right to join Anita Bryant and the Jesus Christs, who, officially, want us to prepare for that military showdown with international communism that will mean (as far as their American Jewish allies go) security and victory for Israel."

Two omissions mar this otherwise admirable book. The editors are quite candid about the first, the absence of female writers. They ascribe that to a generally realized sense that Lesbians have a much stronger connection to feminism than they have to common cause with their Gay brothers. Apathy and disaffection on the part of the women was the inevitable result. Well, if you say so, Denny, but the suspicion remains that

not all that much effort was made.

Not only is AIDS not treated, but there is next to no mention of any STDs. What a glaring gap in an anthology which is otherwise so inclusive.

Nevertheless, this *Reader* is an important, valuable book. Dipping into it can deepen your Gay sensibilities and strengthen your determination.

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Part II of Two Parts

JOHN COURLAS

Muscle System Instructor is Serious About His Job

by Paul Trefzger

John had a gym of his own before coming with us. He's almost a father figure to us. We try to follow his methods because he's so knowledgeable and to standardize our instructions to his, but then you always have to allow for individuality. He'd agree. He's a very patient person and we're fortunate to have him.

— Bob Landy

I was anxious to meet this man that Bob, who I considered a contemporary (I'm talking 40s) referred to as a father figure. John Courlas was to give me my "run through" at the Hayes Street (Civic Center) location of Muscle System.

I was impressed immediately with the ambience of the place — the space, appearance, and the amount of equipment. There are mirrors everywhere, large wooden beams, and large, good-looking men. John was no slouch. The man has a washboard stomach few "fathers" (or sons) have. Still, on occasion he would refer to his clientele as "the kids." Most impressive was his straightforward, no bull demeanor. As he took me through my workout he took the time to see that every exercise I did was done with proper form. I have yet to meet such a professional, yet caring, instructor. When we sat afterward for the interview he said, "I started working out twenty, thirty-five years ago. Say, why are you asking about me? Do you really think anybody's interested in what I did?"

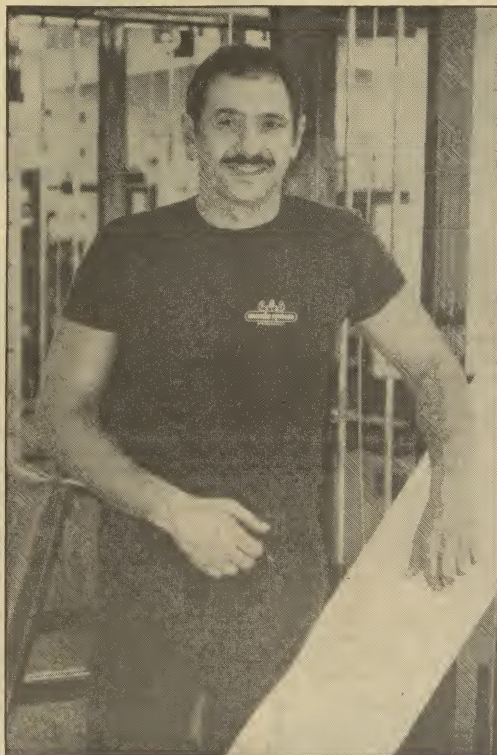
John himself does not work out at the Muscle System.

"If I worked out here, the kids wouldn't leave me alone. I made one of my rooms at home into a weight room where I work out Monday, Wednesday, and

Friday for about an hour and a half. Wednesday's a shorter day. Also, I move a lot faster than the kids here . . . for cardiovascular reasons. I can't rest long between sets. When I used to work out at the old gym in the morning before anyone came, I'd let the phone ring."

John was born in Columbus, Ohio, and graduated from high school in 1948. His family moved to Long Beach in 1950.

"That's when it all started," he said. "There was this crummy old gym in Long Beach." Prior to that he'd taken part in his high school swimming, diving, and basketball. "I had been swimming and diving at Ohio State University, so when I went to the 'Y' and the facilities for those sports were bad, I began to wander around and wound up in the weight room. For years I learned a lot by just standing around and watching. I learned by seeing people doing things wrong. Of course, I was also finding out how to do things right. It was about ten years of trial and error. One of my biggest influences was Steve Reeves. Everything he did was perfection. He's an example of someone who was getting the maximum out of everything he would do." In answer to my question, John said that yes, he knew Steve Reeves before his "Hercules" days, and that this



George Ash of the Muscle System (Photo: Rink)

was "when he was bouncing around Hollywood, living out of his VW and working out at Vic Tanny's. He was even writing songs. He was just about thirty years too soon. He was probably the most perfect bodybuilder as

far as proportion. He was perfection even down to his fingers and toes."

John eventually opened and operated his own gym in Torrance, California. I asked him if he came to San Francisco to

do the same.

"No. No. No.," he said. "I'd had enough of that shit (owning and operating). I was glad to find a guy to buy me out."

"I came to San Francisco fourteen years ago," Courlas continued. "I managed a health food store for awhile. Then I remodeled buildings for awhile. I came to the Muscle System just before they opened their first place. They were about to open in a few days and the guy that had given them a commitment had left and I walked into the job. I didn't think back then that I'd be staying in the business."

Regarding his thorough instruction, "I try to be as thorough as possible. I take you as far as you want to go. Some guys have good intentions, but find that it's hard to motivate themselves and often become dissipated." I asked if he trains anyone there for competition.

"The only time I might be helping someone in that respect would be, say, around the time of the Gay Olympics. Basically though, it's an average gym for average people, and there's no time to do that. I feel that this is the best gym overall and the best workout gym for free weights in the country. It's clean and it's comfortable. There's a good clientele. You may not be looking to be a Mr. America. A guy can come in and work out just for himself. I think that a lot of Gay guys, being appearance conscious, find it's good in that respect for them. I've seen many little skinny guys come in and become hunks in a year, and I can tell that it's turned their lives around. I enjoy reaching out and giving them confidence." ■

Gay Games II Sports Chairs Announced

International Sports Co-Chairs Sara Lewinstein and Hal Herkenhoff released the event categories and introduced 22 sports chairs in charge of most of the events for Gay Games II. The commitment of these highly qualified people signals a major growth in the planning and execution of the games. Scheduled for Aug. 9-16, 1986, in San Francisco, Gay Games II anticipates 5,000 participating athletes from around the world.

Many of the most experienced and dedicated sports organizers from the Gay community have volunteered for what promises to be the largest Gay athletic events in history.

"Our sports chairs are a 'who's who' of local community sports organizers," Lewinstein said, "and many of these people joining our organization have been involved locally with their sports from the beginning. We are pleased and honored that they have joined our effort to make Gay Games II the most exciting international event the Gay community has ever seen."

Herkenhoff and Lewinstein are continuing to interview prospective organizers, and there are currently three sports that need applicants most: rugby, soccer, and volleyball.

As in the first games, organizers will try to have women and men participate together as much as possible.

"We want to let the world see the Gay community as it really exists," Lewinstein said. "Men and women, Blacks, Whites, Asians, Latinos — all races, all ages. Sport is the way to bring all of us together."

Gay Games organizers want to have all the co-chairs in place by the end of September so the rules and regulations for the events will be ready well in advance of the games in 1986.



Sara Lewinstein (Photo: Rink)

"There's a lot of work to be done," Herkenhoff said. "We're expecting 5,000 athletes from around the world for Gay Games II. These sports co-chairs will oversee all aspects of their sports, and the group of leaders we have assembled encourages us that we'll be well prepared."

Tom Waddell, president of the Board of Directors of Gay Games II, and executive direc-

tor Shawn P. Kelly enthusiastically praised the work done so far.

"Sara and Hal have enlisted the support of the most respected sports people in the area," said Waddell. "The management of the sports during the games will be in experienced and capable hands."

The complete list of co-chairs selected thus far follows:

Basketball - Sue Homer; **Billiards** - Lauren Ward, Colin Bradley; **Bowling** - Mal Garcia; **Boxing** - Anita Howard, Desiree

Bolman; Cycling - Kimbyl Edwards, Jerry Ford; **Golf** - Tom Sherck; **Marathon** - David Feiger; **Physique** - Mary Figliulo, Jim Bridges; **Powerlifting** - Nancy Belliveau; **Racquetball** - Lindy McKnight; **Softball** - Tom Vindeed, Emily Fields; **Swimming & Diving** - Susan Straley; **Tennis** - Les Balm, Dianne Richter; **Track & Field** - Bernard Turner; **Wrestling** - Robin Chambers, Don Jung. ■

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WRESTLING

GGWC Trounces So. Cal.

by Charlie Linebarger

It was Saturday night and the bleachers in the Collingwood Gymnasium filled up a little after 6 p.m., the scheduled beginning time for the fourth meet between the Southern California Wrestling Club (Los Angeles) and San Francisco's Golden Gate Wrestling Club.

The wrestlers, wearing red and blue uniforms, were out on the mat limbering up and doing impossible looking wrestler's bridge exercises. Don Jung, founder and president of the San Francisco club, was suited up and had an umpire's whistle hanging from his neck as he paced back and forth between the attendants at the gym door and the judges' desk near the mats. Jung's lover, Ben, handled the crowd at the door.

The first match paired a blond San Franciscan, Carl Martin, against LA's Scott Veliquette. Veliquette kept trying to crawl off the mat, but hefty Martin was always waiting for him back at the center, regardless of whether he managed to crawl off or not. In the end,

the blond wrestler, Martin, beat Veliquette in 2 minutes, 30 seconds.

The second match was between Jung and a well-built contender from LA, John Thayer, who, with his wicked blue eyes, tousled fair hair, and heavily-muscled tan thighs, looked as if he would give Jung a real run for his money. But Jung is no lout in the muscle department either, and soon the two smooth-skinned wrestlers were struggling to see who would come out on top in this important match. After what must have seemed an eternity to the outgunned Thayer, Jung forced the powerful blond from LA to the mat. In a judges' decision, Jung won by 6 points to Thayer's 1.

The third match paired San Francisco's tall, gentle Tim Brace against Larry Blakely, a giant from LA. Brace may be gentle off the mat, but on it is a different matter. The audience squirmed as the San Francisco man fought back against Blakely's wrestling skill, and at one

point we feared Brace had broken Blakely's leg. It was our imagination. Blakely was on top most of the match and, despite a desperate struggle, won in 2:42.

The fourth match paired a big man from LA, former wrestling scholarship athlete Bob Shegog, against a tough San Francisco competitor, Bob Runyon. After a swift classic struggle, the muscular LA man came out on top in 1:45.

At the end of the meet it was announced that the Golden Gate club had trounced the club from LA. Shouts and hollers and jubilation. San Francisco carried 23 points, LA 15. This was the fourth meet between the Gay clubs of Northern and Southern California. The Golden Gate club picked up a gross profit of \$450 as a result of the donations. A hot evening for everyone.

You missed it? You have another chance to catch these guys in action. Oct. 14 the Golden Gate Wrestling Club will celebrate its victory over LA with a victory party at the Eagle. In the soused tradition of Europe's athletic clubs, this will be a benefit beer bust (\$6) from 3 to 6 p.m. There should be quite a crowd for this one.



Some of the action at the GGWC vs. So. Cal. wrestling meet last weekend. (Photo: Rink)

SCOREBOARD

JAPANTOWN BOWL COMMUNITY LEAGUES TEAM STANDINGS AND PERSONAL ACHIEVEMENTS (The League Averages are unavailable)

SUNDAY RENO LEAGUE (Week 13 of 16 - as of 9/9/84)		WEDNESDAY COMM. LEAGUE (Week 16 of 16 - as of 9/5/84)	
1. F. Gumm Memorial	34 18	1. High Gear	50 14
2. Doll Friends	30½ 21½	2. Thing!!!	42½ 21½
3. Queen Pins	29 23	3. Team #10	42 22
4. Bingo Bongo	29 23	4. Late-nite Rollers	40 24
5. Master Blasters	29 23	5. Pilsner Vultures	38 26
6. M M W!	26½ 25½	6. 3 Budha's + 2	37 27
7. The Dreamers	26 26	7. Taco Tycoons	35 29
8. Joanie's Boys	25 27	8. Carolina Gamecocks	34 30
9. Vagabond	24 28	9. Sticky Buns	34 30
10. Wolfpussy	25½ 29½	10. Team #1	31 33
11. Dr. V and Vamps	19½ 32½	11. Kokpit	31 33
12. Late Cumers	17 35	12. Stud City	29 35
HAWAII VACATION LEAGUE (Week 1 of 37 - as of 9/7/84)		13. Ball Buddys	29 35
1. Team #6	3 1	14. Lucky Strikes	28 36
2. El Rio Tartarugas #1	3 1	15. Damaged Goods	25 39
3. Lady and Tramps	3 1	16. Pinheads II	22 42
4. ER II's	3 1	17. CB's	20½ 43½
5. Team #3	1 3	18. Team #18	0 64
6. Team #5	1 3	High Scratch Game	
7. Church St. Strikers	1 3	Clarence Nora (3 Bds + 2)	244
8. Team #8	1 3	Jim Barnes (3 Bds + 2)	243
9. Team #9	0 0	Michael Carris (High Gear)	239
10. Team #10	0 0	Sharon Barrows (LN Rls)	188
MONDAY COMM. LEAGUE (Week 14 of 16 - as of 9/10/84)		High Scratch Series	
1. PWIL Also!	42 14	Jim Barnes (3 Bds + 2)	612
2. Play With It, Ltd.	39 17	Don Franceschi (Team #10)	606
3. Dish	39 17	Clarence Nora (3 Bds + 2)	587
4. Castro Cntry Club	35 21	Sharon Barrows (LN Rls)	462
5. Vagabond	31 25	THURSDAY COMM. LEAGUE (Week 16 of 16 - as of 9/6/84)	
6. Bow-K	26 30	1. J.P. Stars & Strikes	39 25
7. Spinal Cords	26 30	2. Twin Peaks	37 27
8. Obelisk Crystal Ball	26 30	3. Pend-ulum	35 29
9. Short Circuits	24 32	4. Old Rick's Gold Rm	35 29
10. Blazers	23½ 32½	5. Pilsner	34 30
11. Assault & Battery	23 33	6. Spare Parts	32 32
12. R.P.M.	19 37	7. Vagabond	30 34
13. Team #11	17 39	8. Pendulum 1	28 36
14. Dead Puppies	14½ 41½	9. Team #5	26 38
TUESDAY COMM. LEAGUE (Week 16 of 17 - as of 9/11/84)		10. Team #10	22 42
1. El Rio Tartarugas	48 16	High Scratch Game	
2. Hot Rollers	47 17	Morgan Chase (J.P. S&S)	278
3. Oh Merde!	36½ 27½	Jim Barnes (Twin Peaks)	244
4. Rude Prudes	36 28	Richard Harry (Vagabond)	215
5. Pinheads	36 28	Jim Houghton (Team #5)	208
6. Overnights	32½ 31½	High Scratch Series	
7. Mixed Company	31 33	Morgan Chase (J.P. S&S)	722
8. No Wire Hangers!	30 34	Jim Barnes (Twin Peaks)	661
9. Chiquita's Bananas	29½ 34½	Dennis Hale (Pend-ulum)	547
10. Hopeless	27½ 36½	Grey Rider (Pend-ulum)	537
11. Ethel	26 38	FRIDAY COMM. LEAGUE (Week 14 of 16 - as of 9/7/84)	
12. Ms. Fitts	25 39	1. Stella's Starlettes	38 18
13. Trolly Dolly's	23 41	2. Beech - Nuts	29 27
14. Daddy's Boys	22 42	3. With Colour	28 28
Bowling scores compiled by Jerry R. De Young.		4. Team #1	28 28
		5. Strange Interlude	26 30
		6. Pin-Heads	19 37



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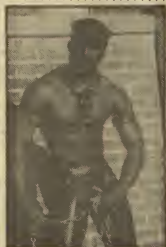
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MR. MARCUS



Baptism on the Miracle Mile

If you're a newcomer to San Francisco, chances are you never heard of the Folsom Street Fair and parade which was held way back in 1970. In comparison to the present day, full-blown Gay Freedom Day Parade down Market Street, that early attempt at a cohesive leather statement was a ragtag display, but nevertheless a statement that Folsom Street, also called the Miracle Mile, DID exist. In those days, the only bars around were the Stud, Febe's, Ramrod, and the Speakeasy (now Le Domino restaurant). Comes now 1984 and the proliferation of bars, restaurants, baths, and other Gay businesses in our beloved South of Market can truly make a definitive statement. Thusly, this Sunday, September 23, the South of Market Alliance (SOMA) will stage its first attempt at a cohesiveness with Megahood '84, the Folsom Street Fair, from 11 a.m. 'til Dusk, and from 7th to 11th Streets. There'll be a stage at each end of the fair area with 'round the clock entertainment, including a leather fashion show on the Folsom Stage (11th St.) and other entertainment, as well as entertainment on the SOMA stage at 7th Street. Bikers are reminded that they can park motorcycles only behind the barricades at either end of the fair site. There'll be arts and crafts, food, music entertainment, dancers, a display of post-war classic cars, and the whole thing will be broadcast on KUSF (90.3 FM) from Noon until 3 p.m. The entire production is a benefit, of course, with proceeds going to the Shanti Project, the No. and So. of Market Adult Health Corp., The Clinic, and the South of Market Alliance. Quite frankly, if you're a regular, or even an on-again, off-again habitue of South of Market and the leather scene, you've just gotta be there.

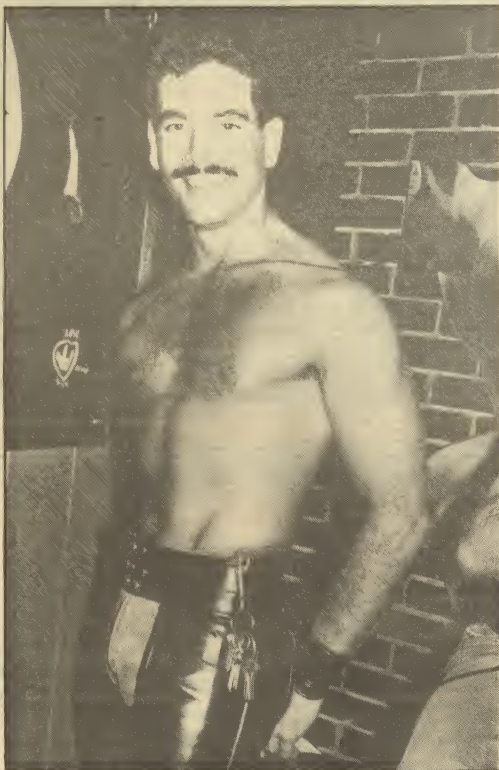
The Golden Gate Business Association will present its annual 22 on the Red casino night at the Giftcenter Pavilion (8th & Brannan) the night before the fair (Sat., 22 Sept.) beginning at 8 p.m. The \$22 in advance or \$25 at the door admission includes \$5 in chips with big band dancing (Frank Elliott Orch.), surprise entertainment, gaming, and the appearance of San Francisco's own Carol Channing, accompanied by the other two stars from Jerry's Girls. At midnight, a raffle drawing for a fire-engine red 1985 Chevy Sprint, courtesy of Val Strough, will take place, with Ms. Channing drawing the winning ticket. There's plenty to do all weekend, so get out and support your community and the causes it espouses.

OF MICE AND MEN BUT MOSTLY MEN

Right about now, Warren Cave of the Phoenix Uniform Club is the talk of the bike club circuit. Last weekend, the Warlocks M/C hosted its annual

Lake San Antonio bike run, and the superlatives about it are nothing less than heavenly. Although Warren is a member of a uniform club, his contributions to the efforts of all the clubs is unparalleled. And it didn't just begin yesterday. Mr. Cave has always, but always, been THERE to paint scenery, create a set, exhaust himself in any number of numbers, and each time out, he exceeds his prior performance. The camp site, the food, the bike events, the people events, and everything about the Warlocks' run has been rated a

man car that was being considered to transport delegates to the Annual Review of the American Uniform Association in Denver next month has been canceled. It was a superb idea, but the cost was apparently prohibitive for the round-trip excursion, which was luxurious for a train, even by today's standards. I'm sure, however, that with or without the extravagant conveyance, San Francisco's group, the Bay Area Brigade, will make a lasting impression on the assembled group in Denver . . . One of Folsom's most gifted artists, Jim



Orchid grower Michael Russo won this month's Bare Chest Contest at the Arena. Horticulture never looked so good! (Photo: R. Pruzan)

BIG FAT TEN from everyone who attended. Of course, Myra struck again. This time, she got Frank Benoit's cowboy hat, a battered \$3.50 piece of headwear given to Frank by "JC" Corbett one year ago at the Reno Rodeo. Since Myra is an Auxiliary Warlocks Member, she is privileged to do such things, but never with malice. I suspect her check is in the mail already to replace Frank's cheap chapeau. Anyway, getting on, the highest accolades are being directed toward Warren for the superb run show this past weekend. I hope somebody who's keeping track of all these things remembers Warren when it comes to nominating time for the motorcycle awards next February. To ignore the constant, consistent, and ever-magnificent efforts of Warren Cave in the Man of the Year category would be nothing less than catastrophic . . . Sorry to report that the dream Pull-

Leff, will have his current paintings and lithographs on display at Atlas Savings & Loan on Market Street from now until October 13; you shouldn't miss this exhibit or any others by Jim Leff — what a talent! . . . Colt Thomas, Int'l Mr. Leather 1983, returns to The City next month to be a judge in the 2nd Annual Daddy's Boy Contest to be held at the SF Eagle Sunday, October 21. As stated here before, there is no age limit to a fantasy; however, it would be insulting to anyone's intelligence for a man of 65 to consider himself a Daddy's Boy.

DOT, DOT, DOT, DISH

The viper-tongued Joan Rivers hosted the Tonight Show all last week, and needless to say, she got her share of cracks in about Gays, the most memorable being when she was inter-

(Continued on page 34)

Mr/Ms San Francisco

Gay Bodybuilder Shakes Up The House

by Charles Linebarger

Bodybuilding hunks, their boyfriends, girlfriends, and families, physique aficionados, and the curious flocked to the Palace of Fine Arts Saturday night to rub flesh with the hottest bodies in town. This was camera night, too, as a hundred amateur photographers went into ecstasy over superbly muscled bodies dripping baby oil from their well-contoured physiques. But to Gay San Francisco there was more than beautiful men and women here to ogle at, there was a major new event. A tall, handsome blond man in the middleweight class contended as an upfront Gay man.

Jeffrey Turner, the proud owner of a strikingly chiseled, symmetrical and tan body, talked openly about his struggles as a Gay man to prepare himself for this most important of local bodybuilding contests. He has trained for the last four years at the mecca of bodybuilding in San Francisco, Gold's Gym.

In preparation for the Mr/Ms San Francisco contest, Turner has been in heavy training for months, working out three days and taking a day off, then working out another two days before taking a day off and beginning a new week of the same. Dieting is as grueling as training to any

bodybuilding competitor, and it tests the mettle of a man or woman to eat less than their body is craving day after day while continuing to pound away with the poundages in the gym. Turner's contest diet has consisted of three days of carbohydrate deprivation followed by four days of a balanced diet.

Turner, who was a resident of Atlanta before coming to San Francisco four years ago, is a decorative artist by profession. He's a partner in a business called "Turner West" on Hayes Street.

Talking to me backstage at

the contest, Turner was glad to answer questions and take time for photographs, though his weight class had still to be called on stage.

"My approach to bodybuilding is based on aesthetics rather than the brute quality of it," Turner said. "Being self-employed helps because I can train at odd hours and eat whenever I want to. The most important thing is when I started this I was the proverbial 98-pound weakling. This was something I started when I felt grown up enough to do it, to follow through.

"I always planned on entering contests because you have to diet down (in preparation — a grueling long-term effort) to see what you really look like," Turner continued. "When you're training you look fat. In the next few weeks I intend to decide whether to go for this contest again next year. The important factors are how I do today and whether the people I depend on to support me in this will want me to go on."

In the huge, cave-like backstage area, enveloped in a warm darkness, Turner posed for pictures as he oiled his body and pumped up his muscles awaiting his turn on the stage.

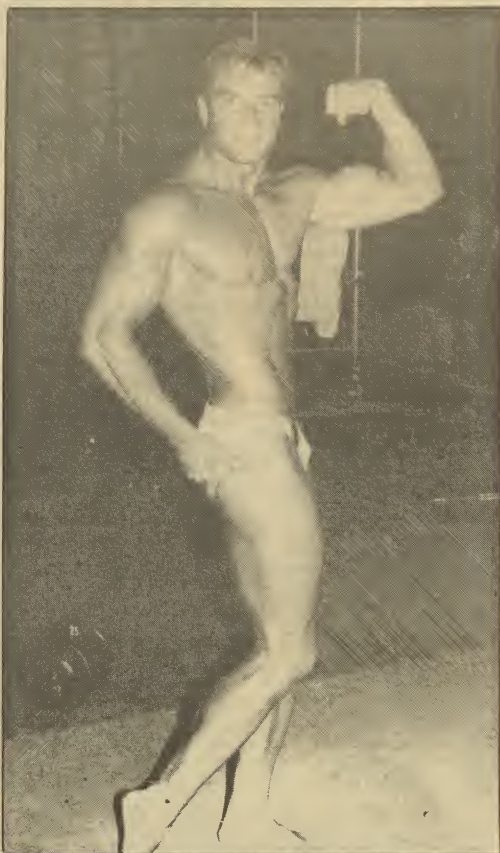
"Middleweights on stage," the MC, Dick Ferris, a co-owner at Gold's Gym, announced. Turner posed to "Rhapsody in Blue," the audience ate him up, screaming and hollering for more as the striking, muscular blond turned his body with agonizing slowness from beautiful pose to beautiful pose. A huge Black bodybuilder backstage turned to me and said, "He's got a lot of potential."

As Turner left the stage the MC added a little humor, "Everyone knows that piece, it's called Rhapsody in Lavender."

This being San Francisco, after all, the audience didn't think the remark was particularly funny.

Handsome Turner was thrilled with his debut on the stage. He came in 4th in his class, a hair away on his first try from being included in the final mid-

dleweight posedown. A trophy he didn't get this time, but he got something more important — he had faced the glaring, brilliant lights alone and had posed for a thousand unseen fans. Turner not only had a beautiful body, he had courage as well.



Jeff Turner (Photo: Rink)

WILD AND WOOLLY

BOB WOOLHOUSE

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The first time I saw a bathroom bidet, I thought it was a vandalized toilet. In operation it looked like the strangest drinking fountain I'd ever seen. My Labrador Retriever would have loved it but certainly it wasn't for human consumption.

A friend from Italy had to explain the bidet to me and how useful it was for both men and women after the battle of the sexes, particularly in European bathrooms which had tubs but not showers.

It seemed logical in a Franco-Italian sort of way and also very awe-inspiring. I came from a New England town where, not only was homosexuality in the closet, but heterosexuality was too. Just imagine having such an oversized sex symbol standing there in the bathroom for God and all those people to see ... individually, of course.

I hadn't thought of that kind of water pistol in years until recently when I saw an ad for a portable bidet that supposedly helped Gay men achieve State of the Art masculine hygiene. To quote:

• "Seventy-nine inch plastic hose and gun." Frankly, it sounded like something to ward off muggers.

• "Keep it with you for any occasion." Well, it just might do for watering indoor plants and washing the dog.

• "No tool necessary." If that were the situation, I probably wouldn't be reading a male porno magazine in the first place.

The problem seems to be schlepping it around all the time without wearing a ski jacket in July. The Law of Butch decrees that to carry anything at all verges on Nelly. And imagine calling the Glory Hole Corp. of America to ask if anyone found the monogrammed portable douche kit you left in a dark stall.

I guess you could wear it around your neck like a stethoscope. Instead of resembling the doctor, however, you might look more like a patient with congenital constipation.

There is the possibility of keeping it in your pants but most

of us have been unreceptive to that general philosophy. And consider your silhouette with 79 inches and a gun jammed into your jeans.

The solution might be the hip pocket, but which side? What color should the hose be? Would it mean water sports, enema queen or Gay plumber just getting off work?

One might ask just how easy it is to use a portable bidet during some typical Gay adventures:

• One Night Stands: when you are anxious to get up, get dressed, and go home, what do you say to your host? "May I douche?" All well and good if you're doing Mary Poppins as a fallen woman and you don't want to see the guy again.

• Back Room of a Sleaze Bar: after scoring, do you proceed to the john and plug into the one and only faucet as a curious line begins to form? Then how do you put yourself through the drip dry cycle?

• Collingwood Park After Hours: eventually you find that the only outlet is the drinking fountain in the children's playground, located well out in the open spaces. Think of that soggy little scene and try explaining it to the investigating officer.

Lastly, what sort of cleaning agent is involved in this royal flush? With the water, the pressure and some soapy solution, you have the ingredients for a rendition of "I'm Forever Blowing Bubbles" like has never been done before. What a knockout finale it could be to a male strip number. As Gypsy Rose Lee said, "Ya gotta have a gimmick."

... it will set a standard to measure all male films in the future!

Beware ... he is waiting
for you ...
on the other side
of the mirror!

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MARCUS

(Continued from page 32)

viewing Kate Jackson, who was bemoaning her empty house (no furniture) because of her heavy video shooting schedule. Snapped Joan: "Don't you have any Gay friends who could shop and decorate for you?" On another night and with a different guest, La Rivers was emoting on the Gayness of San Francisco and let this one fly: "San Francisco is SO GAY, their city flag is made out of Black Leather" — even an acid mouth like hers recognizes us as the leather capital of the world . . . If you are thinking ahead about voting for supervisor in November, it's no secret that practically EVERYBODY is for John Molinari. Since he works "so hard for the money," you can add to his campaign coffers by attending a \$10 reception for him tonight (Thursday, 20 Sept.) at Ray Benson's digs at 470 Beacon St. from 7 to

10 p.m.; as an extra bonus, John van Heusden will probably be there to offer his views on the wide, wide world of typesetting as performed in Tiburon-by-the-Bay . . . Philip Smith, the treasurer of the California Eagles M/C, is not amused by my writing (stand in line with John Rowberry) especially about his bike club. The solution to that one is easy. Real easy, as time will tell . . . Sorry to report about the dowager duchess Vinny Russell — he is very sick. You can send him get well cards in duplicate — one for each face. Oops, that was supposed to be GRAND duchess, but the only thing Grand about Vinny is the middle finger of his right hand . . . Belated birthday greetings to Duke Armstrong, who celebrated his 25th (25th?) by attending the Warlocks' Lake San Antonio run. Everyone was hoping Duke would go by bus with Rich (Drummer Boy) Stone so Rich could re-enact his famous trumpet solo as he did on the bus coming into Chicago from the



Bartenders' Bash brought north and south of Market barmen together Monday night (August 6) at Chaps, kicking off its First Anniversary festivities: (l. to r.) Mike Adams (Boot Camp), Kenny Allison (Kokpit), Gary Kenyon (SF Eagle), and Bobby Marquez (Galleon). (Photo: Marcus)



Rita Rocket gets ready for the Folsom Street Fair. (Photo: Marcus)

airport. Are you sure he's a drummer and not a trumpet player? . . . Michael Russo, soon to be married to Rick Manning, snagged the October '85 spot on the Arena's forthcoming calendar last Thursday at the Bare Chest Contest. A packed house witnessed another parade of pulchritude, and since Mr. February '85 went back to Australia before he could be photographed, the 1st runner-up will appear instead, that being Joe Johns, that surly little dynamo who cracked everybody up as Ms. Peckerhead earlier this year at the Pilsner Inn's Valentine's Day Sock Hop. The calendar should be MOST interesting. By the way, the Arena will pick Mr. November '85 on Thurs., Oct. 4, and Mr. December '85 on Thurs., Oct. 18 . . . If you're into Astrology, there's a 'hot little booklet out each month called *San Francisco*

Pocket Astrologer that gets snapped up as soon as it's out on the cigarette machines. Editor Jane Slaughter does a bang-up job in the Sept. '84 issue that includes How to Make Your FIRST Date Your LAST Date with all 12 signs. I consider this edition the BIBLE because of its accurate and fascinating tips . . . The SF Marching Band will have its Fall Concert at the Japan Center Theatre Nov. 10 and NOT at Davies Hall as I mentioned last week . . . Ted Knipe, one of the most handsome uniform/leather dudes in town, is off to Germany any day now and asked (I presume rhetorically): "Should I take my chaps with me?" Really! Going to Germany without leather is like balling a real tight one without lubricant! . . . Tony Trevizo, formerly the *enfant terrible* of the CMC, has been conspicuously absent from all

the social gatherings of late, and since he's now, ahem, married, he says: "I'll let David Sarathain take over my old haunts, tricks, and stunts" — that should be easy for David . . . Memo for the Ice Queen: *The Cascade Voice* in Portland is the ONLY MONTHLY magazine in the Pacific Northwest. The KEY word here, dear, is MONTHLY . . .

★ ★ ★

Hope to see all of your shining, bearded faces this Sunday at the Folsom Street Fair. Until we meet on these pages again next week, remember: When people tell you how young you look, they're also telling you how old you are. See you at 22 on the Red and at the Folsom Street Fair. Have fun. ■

Marcus

BOOK RACK

A Whore's Life

Flame: A Life on The Game
by Flame
Gay Men's Press; \$6.50, paperback

by Frank Howell

After all, I'd seen a bit of life — more, probably, than many of them would ever see. I'd had a lover for six months. I'd been branded a criminal. I was getting ideas of my own. Outwardly I remained the little choirboy type that people expected me to be. But it was all beginning to happen in my head. I was unique and I knew it.

Flame is a male prostitute. He makes no bones about it. He is a flaming British fag-got. Gays are divided about people like Flame. They support his right to live life at breakneck speed, but they're nervous when the political consequences are totaled.

Flame has endured a tough

first act in his young life. As this bittersweet memoir ends, he is only about 20 years old. At age five, his mother left home and made her way as a whore. Flame was born without an ear, which caused much trauma during his school years. He was raped in juvenile hall. At the age of twelve he had his first love affair with a 27-year-old male.

In his early teens, Flame entered the prostitution trade on a casual basis, but soon joined his mother as a professional. He frequently used complete drag as a way of meeting older men in search of quick romance.

One of the sidelights of reading about Flame is that one gets a quick lesson in the English language employed by the working class in England.

The whore's customers are known as "punters." To put on makeup is called "tarting up the slap." To talk to someone is to "chat me up."

Flame admits he enjoys selling his body. For him, the money is good, and some engaging people cross his path. But he eventually tires of the trade and

wanders into other jobs, such as waiting tables.

He encounters a number of amusing and strange tricks along the way. On one occasion a customer emerged from the bathroom dressed as a football player with a whistle around his neck. As Flame tells it, "I kept my face perfectly straight as he blew the whistle and dived straight onto the bed. He flung my legs in the air and went straight into it — Bang, Bang, Bang. . . ." After 20 minutes, he blew the whistle. . . . He got out of bed, went over to the record player and put on marching band music and brought in two soft drinks for us. We drank them, he took the needle off the record, blew the whistle again and got straight back on the bed for another 20 minutes until full time, when the whistle blew again."

We wonder at times if all these wild tales are true. Is Flame putting us on?

But Flame's occasionally awkward writing style still manages to engage our attention. There are enough depressing aspects to his situation to make us shun any idea of entering the scarlet world ourselves.

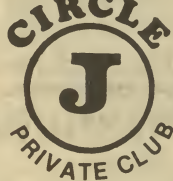
The male hustler occupies an odd niche in our social structure. People decry the existence of such "scum," yet the services of a warm, submissive body are secretly desired by the same body politic. Sometimes our true selves are revealed here. Hypocrisy lies uneasy on the shy face of the whore. ■

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Vacation Time

DICK WALTERS

The Arena may be the only disco dance bar South of Market ... and it is hot, with a live DJ nightly and all new decor. It certainly has become very, very popular ... The bar will hold a contest to pick Mr. November and Mr. December for its fabulous hunky calendar that will be out in time for holiday gifts ... Mr. Marcus is always the MC at this very popular event, so watch his column for the date of this one.

The White Swallow's annual Octoberfest is upon us again from Friday through Sunday, the 5th - 7th, so don't miss it. There will be continuous drawings throughout the day and night, and some of the greatest German food available will be served. This is also the bar's anniversary, and Russ and Jim don't spare anything to make it a great event ... besides, you get to see the lovely (?) staff in lederhosen. You do look nice, Gary and Michael ... and this is their 8th Anniversary ... how time does pass by.

Happy belated birthday greetings to Larry of the Giraffe and the Arena ... hope you liked the flowers, and that the shock wasn't too much.

On Tuesday the 25th, Queen

Mary's Pub on Turk Street will host the Tavern Guild meeting, and you'll hear all the dirt about last Sunday's great 20th Tavern Guild Picnic. Daddy Joe Roland's staff will be on hand to serve you some great drinks, and there are some surprises planned.

Miracles never cease ... spent some time last Wednesday with the one and only Duffy out at the DeLuxe on Haight Street, and who was sitting at the bar but none other than Danny Marsh and Kenny Morgan. Does Kenny look great ... looks younger than when I first met him 15 years ago ... incidentally, Duffy, you don't look too bad yourself ... and thanks for the great afternoon with Andy and Jay.

Google's is throwing yours truly a party on Sunday the 23rd from 4 'til 7 p.m. in honor of my finally taking a vacation to Portland for two weeks, so come on down and join in the fun ... and thank you, Bob Cramer, for the offer of the transportation to the Oakland AmTrak station ... so my next column will be from Portland, and I'll be letting you have all that is happening in that city.

On Wednesday, Oct. 10, The



Cary Norsworthy (l.) of the AIDS Foundation, Bruce Harrelson, Mr. Gay SF, and Parkay, Miss Gay SF, at an AIDS Foundation benefit at The Village last weekend. (Photo: Rink)

Gate at Pine and Jones will open for dinners and will be serving Wednesday through Saturday nights with a great brunch on Sundays, so you now have another convenient place to dine with great food.

One of the nicest guys around

town celebrated his birthday last Monday, Sam Houston.

Don't forget, the annual Beaux Arts Ball will be Sunday, Oct. 21, at the Galleria. If you need table reservations or tickets or whatever, contact Mark Friesse at the New Bell Saloon. This should be a really big one, as they will have dancing before and after ... understand there will be an early Tea Dance.

Danny Montoya and his Ben are having their first anniversary party Friday, Sept. 28, which also happens to be Danny's birthday (year unknown). They are inviting you all to join them at Google's that evening from 7 p.m. on for fun, frolic, and food ... sorry I'll miss it, Danny. I'll be away, but here's wishing you both a happy anniversary, and to you a special happy birthday.

Davey's character and the nature of this dodgy world.

But one important consistency is apparent to those who have followed Watmough's works. Two of his previous volumes, *Love and the Waiting Game* and *No More into the Garden* follow much the same pattern, starting usually in the turbulence of Davey's early adolescence and proceeding in a rough chronology forward, with interpolated flashbacks. Consequently, each story sets the reader at a different angle from

a group of British youth, who are supposed to visit parishes of their same faith. Instead, a hilarious series of events reveals what they all really want to do — have a giddy sexual romp with their Dutch cousins.

'In a sense, Watmough is something of a liar as an artist, a point he cheerfully admits in a brief preface.'

In a sense, Watmough is something of a liar as an artist, a point he cheerfully admits in a brief preface. He alters the people and circumstances of Davey's life frequently, from story to story. But this re-casting and manipulation is far from whimsical. It is done to better illumine the point of an episode, to reveal yet another facet of

the one before, with the whole forming a collage whose unity depends on a grasp of intention.

The result is an engrossing psychological depiction that tells us about ourselves as we understand the details of Davey's self. It's all well worth it. And in September another volume, *Fury*, is promised.

BOOK RACK

Lying for Truth

The Connecticut Countess: The Chronicle of

Davey Bryant

by David Watmough

The Crossings Press; \$7.95

by Marv Shaw

Davey Bryant is a hell of a liar, a habitual dissimulator who is generally pretty good at the art. As a teenager in Cornwall, he lies mainly to his relatives, hard-bitten farmers who are suspicious of his secretiveness and resentful of his lazy ways. He lies to his agemates, his companions in the Navy, a reclusive old queen in the Cornish countryside, and the "Connecticut Countess," a neurotic socialite who patronizes him.

The prevaricating is necessary. He must conceal who he really is, for fear that the truth may destroy him. Most of the lying is about his Gayness.

His lying is a defense, and in that, he comes to resemble most of us. As a sexual subculture, we are still a long way from safe, candid self-representation from an early age, no matter how boldly we may have stormed out of the closet since. Our histories closely resemble Davey's then, even though his odyssey is far different from most of ours: Cornish upbringing, British schooling, wartime Navy service, a religious deviation, immigration to America, and eventual settlement in British Columbia.

The episodes of Davey's life are often a means for revealing the lies others live as well. He tells them in a series of short stories that cut back and forth in time. Typical are "Cousin Pretherick and the Will," "Closed," and "Bowen Island Confession." In each of these, an aging man reaches abruptly across the years to recall the concealed, often incompletely realized love of another man.

Not all the stories are poignant. For example, "False Start" is about a tour of Holland that Davey, briefly Brother Dominic, takes as the leader of

Karl's Calendar

Thursday, 9/20: Reception, Supervisor John Molinari, 470 Beacon St., 7 to 11 p.m., \$10

Don Baker Memorial Service, Neptune Society Columbarium, #1 Lorraine Court (behind Coronet Theatre), 7:30 p.m.

7th Anniversary, Kimo's (Polk & Pine), 8 p.m., featuring Mama Billy's Buffet and Kimo's Hawaiian Show.

John Wahl Auction, Wahl for Supervisor Committee, Starlight Room, 8 p.m.

Forum, Chez Mollet (527 Bryant), 8:30 p.m., open to the public; great source of info on club scene in No/Cal.

Birthday, Dick Wheeler, Febe's, 9 p.m.

Friday, 9/21: 2nd Anniversary, Don Ramon's (11th and Folsom), 6 p.m. on, buffet and mariachis.

Cycle Runners Open Meeting, The Watering Hole, 8:30 p.m., pre-run meeting: "Opera Madness," 9/28-30.

Saturday, 9/22: Men's Room River Outing, check-in 9:15 a.m., return 6 p.m., \$25 includes open bar (bus and MB), BBQ lunch, entertainment, Miss Men's Room contest and transportation, reservations suggested.

Beer Bust and Bike Christening, Cal Eagles M/C, SF Eagle Patio, 3 to 6 p.m., \$5 includes beer, wine, and soda, christening of club bikes, Sonny Kline.

SF Imperial Bus Trip, to ACIE's Coronation, Kokpit, departure 6 p.m. (sharp), return 12:30 a.m., \$19.50 includes ball ticket.

A Trip Through Time, ACIE's Coronation '84, His Lordship's ballroom, at the end of Seawall Dr., Berkeley Marina, 7 p.m., \$12.

22 on the Red, Golden Gate Business Association benefit for GGBA Foundation, Giftcenter Pavilion (8th and Brannan), 8 p.m., \$22 adv., \$25 door, formal dress encouraged, Frank Elliott Orchestra, gaming, dancing.

BC/MC Run Tape, Febe's, 9 p.m.

Sunday, 9/23: Folsom Street Fair, noon to 7 p.m., between 7th and 11th Streets, stages at 7th and 11th will have top SF entertainment, butch booths, artists, games, food and drink.

Cheaters' Beer Bust, SF Eagle Patio, 3 to 6 p.m., \$6 includes food.

Wednesday, 9/26: Anniversary Party, The Village (18th and Castro), cocktail prices all day, buffet 8 p.m., prizes, drink specials.

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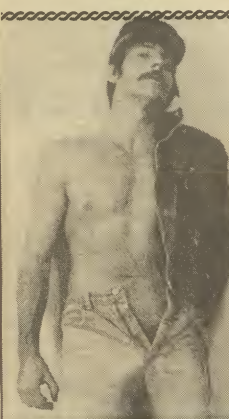
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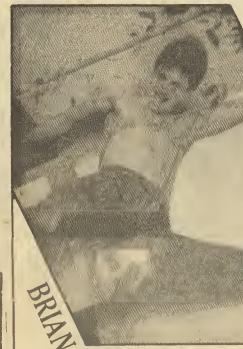
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Medical science has made a discovery which destroys all previous theories about losing weight and the cause of obesity. A powerful weight loss formula with the wild name of "cholecystokinin" (or CCK as they call it) will shortly be talked about by every man and woman who wants to... or needs to lose weight. At a N.Y. hospital, a doctor was astonished to find that thin people had higher levels of CCK in their bodies than people who were fat or obese. This fact led scientists to make other remarkable conclusions.

BEING FAT MAY NOT BE YOUR FAULT

Now, for the first time, researchers could explain why some people always seem to be thin, while others tend to be heavy, even though they both eat the same foods and engage in the same amount of exercise. So, a weight problem could really be the result of your not having enough CCK in your system. Makes sense!

RAPID WEIGHT LOSS IS DOCUMENTED

CCK helps the body reject calories. It tells your body that you're full. In effect, it says Stop... Stop eating! And you're able to do so, easily and without any harsh drugs or caffeine. In the clinical studies, ALL participants lost weight with CCK... from 8 to 23 pounds... and in just 4 weeks!

WHAT PEOPLE SAY IT DID FOR THEM

"I have never lost 19 pounds in 4 weeks...the amazing thing is that I did not exercise at all." R.E. says.

"...did curb my appetite... look good and feel good about myself!" says K.B. K.B. lost 16 pounds.

"Didn't make my stomach upset or jittery... it was the easiest diet I've been on, that has been effective, that I actually lost weight on." R.C. lost 13 pounds.

TRY IT! MONEY BACK GUARANTEE!

If you do not see satisfactory results, return the empty bottle and sales receipt within 30 days for a full, prompt refund. What have you got to lose?



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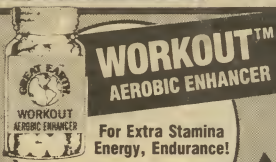


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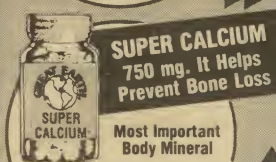


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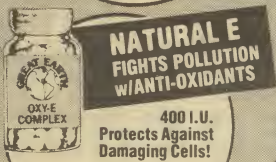


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